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2698

A

Caveat or Warning

for

Common Cursetors.

ONE HUNDRED COPIES PRINTED.

A
CAVEAT OR WARNING

FOR
Common Cursetors,

VULGARLY CALLED

Vagabonds.

SET FORTH

BY THOMAS HARMAN, ESQ.

FOR THE

UTILITY AND PROFIT OF HIS NATURAL COUNTRY.

////

WHEREUNTO IS ADDED,

THE TALE OF THE SECOND TAKING OF THE COUNTERFEIT CRANK, WITH
THE TRUE REPORT OF HIS BEHAVIOUR, AND ALSO HIS
PUNISHMENT FOR HIS DISSEMBLING, MOST
MARVELLOUS TO THE HEARER
OR READER THEREOF

////

LONDON:

REPRINTED BY T. BENSLEY,
Bolt Court Fleet Street;

AND SOLD BY R. TRIPHOOK, 37, ST. JAMES'S STREET.

1814.



TO
JOSEPH HASLEWOOD, ESQ.

AS
A TESTIMONIAL OF ESTEEM

FOR
HIS BIBLIOGRAPHICAL TALENTS AND PERSEVERING RESEARCH IN
THE REVIVAL OF ANCIENT LITERATURE,

THIS REPRINT,
OF
The Cadeat for Cursetors,

(THE IMPRESSION OF WHICH IS LIMITED TO ONE HUNDRED COPIES)

IS
RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE illustration of the manners and customs of a country, and particularly those of our own, is always interesting. In this point of view it is hoped the present reprint will prove acceptable, as descriptive of a class of society during the reign of Elizabeth. That it must have been popular may be presumed from the circumstance of four editions (if not more) having issued from the press within a short period; and its great rarity is sufficiently obvious, from having escaped the researches of Ames and Herbert. The following editions are all that have been discovered.

1. Printed for Wyllyam Gryffyth. 1566.
2. 1567. In the Bodleian Library. An account of this edition is given in the British Bibliographer, vol. ii. pp. 515, 22.
3. 1567. In the Collection of the Rev. H. White. This edition, though published in the same year, varies in the title, and has in addition the wood cut of the Counterfeit Crank, copied at p. 32 of the present edition.
4. Printed for Henry Middleton. 1573. See British Bibliographer, vol. iv. p. 592.

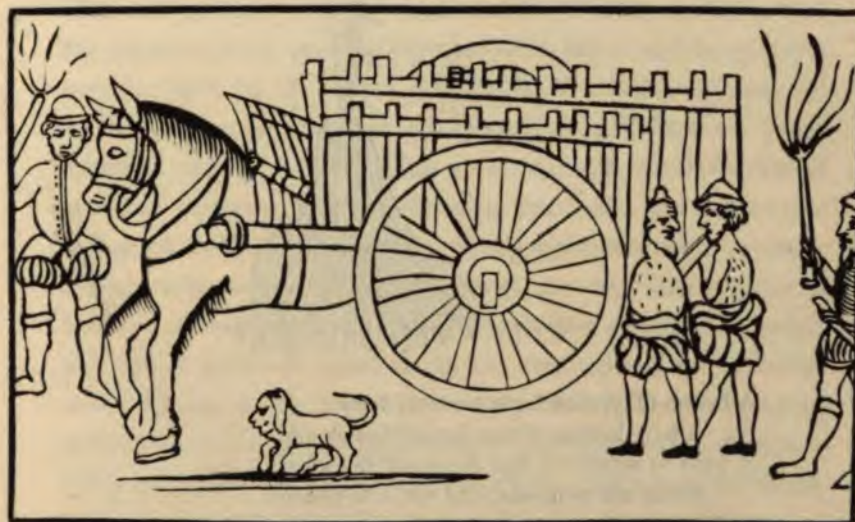
A Caueat or warening for

Common Cursetors, vlgarely called

Magabones, set forth by Thomas Harman, Esquier, for the
vtilitie and profit of his naturall Country. Augmented and in-
larged by the first Authoꝝ hereof. Whereunto is added
the tale of the second taking of the counterfet
Crank, with the true report of his behauis-
oꝝ and also his punishment for his so
dissembling, most maruelous to
the hearer oꝝ reader thereof.

Newly Imprinted.

ANNO 1573.



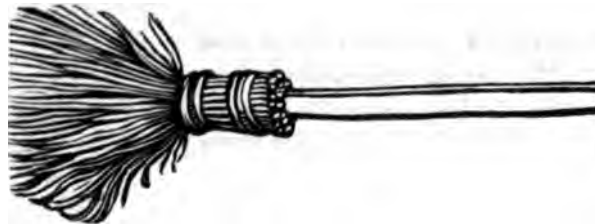
This Cart at his tayle doth draw all about,
Such pylfering pickers, that to it is tyed:
The whip with his whiskes, the bloud fetcheth out,
The Baudes for baudery, and Hores therein ryed.

Threé things to be noted al in
A Staff, a Besom, a With that



their kind,
will wind.

A besom of byrche for babes very feete,
A long lasting lybbet for loubbes as méet:
A wyth so wynde vp that these will not kéepe,
Bynde all vp in one, and vse it to swéepe.



TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE, AND MY
singular good Lady Elizabeth Countes of

Shrewsbury, Thomas Harman wisheth all ioye

and perfect felicitie, here and in the world to come.

AS of auncient and long tyme there hath bene, and is now at this present many good godly profitable lawes and actes made and set forth in this most noble and flourishing realme, for the reliefe, succour, comfort and sustentacion of the pore, nedy, impotent and miserable creatures, beeing and inhabiting in all partes of the same. So is there (right honorable and myne especiall good Lady) most holsome estatutes, ordinances and necessary lawes, made, set foorth and published, for the extreme punishment of all vagarants and sturdy vagabonds as passeth through and by all partes of this famous yle, most idelly and wickedly: and I (by good experience) well vnderstanding and considering your most tender, pitifull, gentle and noble nature, not only hauing a vigilant and mercifull eye to your poore, indigēt and feeble parishioners: yea not only in the parish wher your honour most happely doth dwell, but also in others inuironing or nighe adioyning to the same. As also abundantly powring out dayly your ardent and bountifull charitie vppon all such as commeth for reliefe vnto your luckly gates.

I thought it good necessary, and my bounden dutye to acquaint your goodnes with the abhominable, wicked and detestable

behaviour of all these rowsey, ragged rabblement of rakehelles, that vnder the pretence of great misery, diseases and other innumerable calamities, which they fayne through great hipocrisie, do win and gayne great almes in all places where they wyly wander, to the vtter deludyng of the good gevers: deceyiing and impouerishing of al such poore housholders both sicke and sore, as neyther can or may walke abroad for reliefe and comfort (where in deede most mercy is to be shewed,) And for that, I (most honorable Lady) being placed as a poore gentleman, haue kept a house these twenty yeares, where vnto pouerty dyily hath and dothe repayre, not without some reliefe as my poore callinge and habilitie may and doth extende: I haue of late yeares gathered a great suspicion that all should not be well: and as the prouerbe sayeth: *Some thing lurcke and laye hyd that dyd not playnely appeare.* For I hauing more occasion (through sicknesse) to tary and remayne at home, then I haue bene accustomed, doe by my there abyding, talke and conferre daily with many of these wyly wanderars, of both sortes, as well men and women, as boyes and gyrles: by whom I haue gathered and vnderstand their depe dissimulation and detestable dealing, being maruelous suttle and crafty in their kinde, for not one amongst twenty will discouer, eyther declare their scelerous secretes: yet with fayr flattering wordes, money, and good cheere, I haue attained to the type by such as the meanest of thē, hath wādered these xiii. yeres, and most xvi. and som xx. and vpward, and not without faithful promise made vnto them, neuer to discouer their names or any thinge they shewed mee: for they would all saye, if the vpright men should vnderstand thereof, they should not bee onely greeuously beaten, but put in daunger of their lyues, by the sayd vpright men. There was a fewe yeares since a small breefe set forth of

some zelous man to his countrey, of whom I knowe not, that made a little shewe of their names and vsage, and gaue a glymsing light not sufficient to perswade of their peuish pelting and pynking practyses, but well worthy of prayse. But (good Madame) with no lesse trauell then good will, I haue repayred and rigged the ship of knowledge, and haue hoyssed vp the sayles of good fortune, that shee may safely passe about and through all parts of this noble realme, and there make porte sale of hir wished wares, to the confusion of their drowsey demener, and vnlawfull lāguage, pylfring, pycking, wyly wandering and lyking lechery, of all these rablement of rascals that raunges about all the costes of the same, so that their vndesent dolefull dealing and execrable exercyses may appeare to all as it were in a glasse, that thereby the iusticers and shreeues maye in their circuites be more vigilant to punishe these malefactores, and the constables, baylifes and housholders, setting asyde all feare, slouth, and pitie, may bee more circum-spect in executing the charge gyuen them by the aforesayd iusticers. Then will no more this rascall rablement raunge about the countrey. Then greater reliefe may be shewed to the pouerty of eche parishe. Then shall wee keepe our horses in our pastures vnstolen. Then our linnen clothes shall and may lye safely on our hedges vntouched. Then shall wee not haue our clothes and linnen hooked out at our windowes, as well by daye as by night. Then shall wee not haue our houses broken vp in the nyght, as of late one of my neyghbours had and twoo great buckes of clothes stolen out, and most of the same fyne linnen. Then shall wee safely keepe our pigges and poultre from pylfering. Then shall wee surely passe by the high wayes leading to markets and faires vnharmed. Then shall our shops and bothes be vnpicked and spoiled. Then shall these vncomely companies bee dispersed and

set to labour for their liuing, or hastely hang for their demerites, Then shall it encourage a great number of gentle men and others, seeing this securitie, to set vp houses and keepe hospitalitie in the countrey, to the comfort of their neighbours, reliefe of the poore, and to the amendment of the common wealth. Then shal not sinne and wyckednes so much abounde among vs. Then will God's wrath be much the more pacified towards vs. Then shall we not taste of so many and sundry plagues as now daylye raigneth over vs. And then shall this famous empyre be in more welth and better floryshe, to the inestimable ioye and comforte of the Queenes most excellent maiestie, whom God of his infinite goodnes, to his great glory, long and many yeares make most prosperously to raygne over vs, too the great felicitie of all the peeres and nobles, and to the vnspeakable ioy, reliefe and quietnes of mynde of all hir faithfull commons and subiectes. Now, me thinketh I see how these peeuish, peruerse and pestilent people begin to freat, fume, sweare, and stare at this my booke, theyr lyfe beinge layde open and apparantly paynted out, that their confusion and end draweth on apace: where as in deede if it be well wayed, it is set forth for theyr singular profyt and commoditie, for the sure safeguard of their liues here in this world, that thei shorten not the same before their time, and that by their true laboure and good lyfe, in the world to come they may saue their soules, that Christe the second person in Trinitie hath so derely bought with his most precious bloud: so that hereby I shall do them more good then they could haue deuised for themselues. For behold, their life being so manifest wicked, and so apparantly knowne: the honorable will abhorre them: the woorshipfull will reiecte them: the yeoman will sharplye tawnte them: the husband men vtterly defye them: the labouringe men bluntlye chyde them: the wemen

wyth a loude exclamation wonder at them. And all children wyth clappyng handes crye out at them. I manye tymes musing with my selfe at these mischeuous myslyvers marueled when they toke their original and beginning, how longe they haue exercised their execrable wandringe about: I thought it meete to confer with a very olde man that I was well acquainted with, whose witte and memory is maruelous for his yeares, being about the age of foure score, what hee knewe when hee was yonge of these lousey lewterars. And he shewed mee that when he was yonge, he wayted vpon a man of much worship in Kent, who dyed immediately after the last Duke of Buckingham was beheaded, at his buryall there was suche a number of beggers, besides poore housholders dwelling there abouts, that vnneth they might lye or stand aboute the house: then was thereto prepared for them a great and a large barne, and a great fatte oxe sod out in furmenty for them with bread and drinke aboundantly to furnish out the premisses, and euery person had two pence, for such was the dole. Whē night aproched the pore housholders repaired home to their houses, the other wayfaring bold beggers remained all night in the barn, and the same barne being serched with light in the night by this old man and then yonge and others, they tolde seuen score persons of men, euery of them hauing his woman, except it were two women that lay alone togyther for some especiall cause. Thus hauing their makes to make mery withal: the buriall was tourned to bousing and belly cheere, mourning to myrth, fasting to feasting, prayer to pastyme, and pressing of paps and lamenting to lecherye. So that it may appeare this vncomly company hath had a long continuance, but then nothinge geuen so much to pylferinge, pyckinge and spoling, and as far as I can learne or vnderstande by the examination of a number of them, their language

which they terme peddelers Frenche or canting, began but within these xxx. yeres or litle aboue, and that the first inuenter thereof was hanged all save the head, for that is the finall ende of them al, or elles to dye of some filthy and horrible diseases: but much harme is done in the meane space by their continuance as some x. xii. and xvi. yeaeres before they be consumed, and the number of them doth dayly renew. I hope their sinne is nowe at the hyghest, and that as short and as speedy redresse wil be for these, as hath bene of late yeaeres for the wretched, wyly wandering vagabonds calling and naming them selues Egyptians, deeply dissembling and long hyding and couering their depe deceiteful practises, feeding the rude common people wholly addicted and geuen to novelties, toyes, and new inuentions, delyting them with the straungenes of the attyre of their heades, and practising paulmistrye to such as would knowe their fortunes. And to be short, all theues and hoores (as I may well write) as some haue had true experience, a number can well witnesse, and a great sort hath well felte it. And nowe (thankes bee to God) through wholsome lawes and the due execution thereof, all bee dispersed, banished, and the memory of them cleane extinguished, that when they bee once named hereafter, our chyldren will muche marueil what kind of people they were: and so I trust shall shortly happen of these. For what thing doth chiefly cause these rowsey rake helles thus to continew and dayly increase? surely a number of wicked persons that keepe typling houses in all shiers, where they haue succoure and reliefe, and what so euer they bryng, they are sure to receyue money for the same, for they sel good peny worthes. The byers haue the greatest gayne, yea yf they haue neither money nor ware, they wylbe trusted, their credit is much. I haue taken a note of a good many of them, and will send their names and

dwelling places to such iusticers as dwelleth nere or next vnto them, that they by their good wisdomes may displace the same, and authorise such as haue honesty. I will not blot my booke with their names, because they be resident. But as for this fleeting fellowship, I haue truly set forth the most part of them, that be doers at this present, with their names that they be knowne by. Also I haue placed in the end therof their leud language, callinge the same pedlers French or canting. And now shall I ende my prologue, making true declaration (right honorable Lady) as they shall fall in order of their vntemely tryfeling tyme, leude lyfe, and pernicious practises, trusting that the same shall neyther trouble or abashe your most tender, tymerous, and pytyfull nature, to thinke the small mede should growe vnto you for such almes so geuen. For God our mercyfull and most louing father, well knoweth your harte and good entent, the gyuer neuer wanteth his rewarde, accordinge to the sayinge of Sainct Augustin: as there is (neyther shalbe) any sinne vnpunished, euen so shall there not be any good deede vnrewarded. But how comfortably speaketh Christ our Saviour vnto vs in his gospell (giue ye and it shalbe gyuen you agayne) behold further, good Madam, that for a cup of colde water, Christ hath promised a good rewarde. Nowe saint Austine properly declareth why Christ speaketh of cold water, because the poorest man that is, shall not excuse him selfe from that charitable work, least he would peradventure saye that he hath neyther wood, pot, nor pan, to warme any water with. See further what God speaketh in the mouth of his prophet Esaye. Break thy bread to him that is a hungred, he sayth not giue him a whole lofe: for peradventure the poore man hath it not to gyue, then let him gyve a piece. This much is said because the poore that hath it should not be excused, now how much more then the

riche. Thus you see, good Madame, for your treasure here dispersed, where neede and lacke is, it shalbe heaped vp abundantly for you in heauen, wher neither rust or moth shal corrupt or destroy the same. Vnto which triumphant place after many good happy, and fortunat yeres prosperously here dispended, you may for euer and euer, there most ioyfully remayne. Amen.

W. J. H.



THE
EPISTLE TO THE READER.

ALTHOUGH good reader I write in playne termes, and not so playnely as truely, concerninge the matter, meaning honestly to all men, and wish them as much good as to myne owne harte, yet as there hathe bene, so there is now, and hereafter wilbe curious heades to fynde faultes: wherefore I thought it necessary nowe at this second impression, to acquaint thee with a great faulte, as some taketh it, but not as I meane it, callinge these vagabondes cursetors, in the intytuling of my booke, as runners or rangers about the countrey, deriued of this Latin word (*curro*) neyther do I write it *coorsetores* with a oo, or *cowresetors* wyth a w, which hath an other signification: is there no diversitie betwene a gardein, and a garden, maynteynance, and maintenance: streytes, and stretes: those that haue vnderstanding, knowe there is a great difference: who is so ignorant in these dayes, as knoweth not the meanyng of a vagabone? and if any ydell leuterar should so bee called of any man, woulde not hee thinke it bothe odyous and reprochfull? will he not shon the name? ye and where as he may and dare with bent browes, will reuenge that name of ignominy: yet this playn name vagabone is deriued as others be of Latin wordes, and now vse makes it common to all men: but let vs loke backe foure hundred yeares sithens, and let vs see whether this playne worde vagabon, was vsed or no? I beleue not, and why? because I read of no such name, in the old estatuts of this

realme, vnless it be in the margent of the booke, or in the table, which in the collection and printing was set in, but these were then the common names of these leud leuterars, faytores, robardemen, drawlatches, and valiant beggers. If I should haue vsed such wordes, or the same order of writing, as this realme vsed in King Henry the thyrd, or Edward the firstes time. Oh what a grose, barbarous fellowe haue we here, his writing is both homely and darke, that we had nede to haue an enterpreter, yet then it was very well and in short season, a great change we see, well this delycatage shall haue his time on the othersyde, eloquence haue I none, I neuer was acquaynted with the Muses, I neuer tasted of Helycon. But accordinge to my playne order, I haue set forth this worke, simply and truly, with such vsuall wordes and termes, as is amonge vs well knowne and frequented. So that as the prouerbe sayth (althoughe truth bee blamed, it shall neuer bee shamed,) well good reader, I meane not to be tedious vnto thee but haue added fyue or sixe more tales, because some of them were donne whyle my booke was fyrste in the presse, and as I truste I haue deserved no rebuke, for my good will, euen so I desire no prayse for my payne, coste, and travell. But faythfully for the profyt and benefyte of my country, I haue done it, that the whole bodye of the realme, may see and vnderstand their leud lyfe and pernitiuous practises, that all maye speedely helpe to amende that is amisse. Amen say all with me.



A

Caveat for Cursetors.

CAP. I.

A RUFFLAR.

THE Rufflar, bicause he is first in degre of this odious order: and is so called in a statut made for the punishment of vagabonds: In the xxvii. yeare of King Henry the eight late of most famous memory: He shalbe first placed as the worthiest of this vnruely rablemēt. And he is so called when he goeth first abroad, either he hath serued in the warres, or els he hath ben a seruing man and weary of well doing, shaking off all payne, dooth chuse him this ydle lyfe, and wretchedly wanders about the most shyres of this realme. And with stout audacity he demaundeth where he thinketh he may be bolde, and circumspecte ynough, as he seeth cause to aske charity, rufully and lamentably, that it would make a flynty hart to relent, and pitte his miserable estate, how he hath bene maymed and broused in the warres, and peraduenture some will shew you som outward wounde, which he gotte at some dronken fraye, eyther haltinge of some preuy wounde festred with a filthy firy flankard. For be well assured that the hardiest souldiers be eyther slayn or maymed, either if they escape all hassardes, and retourne home agayne, if they bee without reliefe of their friends, they wil surely desperatly robbe and steale, or eyther shortly bee hanged or miserably dye in pryson, for they be so much ashamed and disdayne to beg or aske charity, that rather they wil as desperately fight for to lyue and mainteyne themselues

as manfully, and valiantly they ventred them selues in the princes quarell. Now, these Rufflars the outcastes of seruinge men when begginge or crauing fayles, then they picke and pylfer from other inferiour beggers that they méete by the way, as roges, pallyardes, mortes, and doxes: yea if they méete with a woman alone ridinge to the market, eyther old man or boye, that hée well knoweth will not resiste, such they filche and spoyle. These Rufflars, after a yeare or two at the farthest become vpriight men, vnlesse thei be preuented by twinde hempe.

I had of late yeares an old man to my tenant, who customablie a great tyme, went twise in the wéeke to London, eyther with fruit or with pescodes, when time serued therefore. And as hee was comming homewarde on blacke heathe, at the ende thereof next to shooters hill, he ouertoke two Rufflars, the one manerly waiting on ye other, as one had ben the maister, and the other the man or seruant carying his maister cloke: This olde man was very gladde that hée might haue their cōpany ouer the hill, because that day he had made a good market, for he had seuen shillings in his purse, and an olde angell, which this pore man had thought had not bene in his purse, for he willed his wife over night to take out the same angell, and lay it vp vntill his comming home againe. And he verely thought that his wyfe had so done, which in deed forgot to doe it. Thus after salutations had, this maister rufflar entred into cōmunication with this simple olde man, who ryding softly beside them commoned of many matters. Thus feding this old man with pleasant talke, vntill they were on the toppe of the hyll where these rufflars myghte well behold the coaste about them cleare, quickly steppes vnto this poore man, and taketh holde of his horse brydell, and leadeth him in to the wode, and demaundeth of him what and how much money he had in his purse. Now by my troth quoth this old man, you ar a mery gentleman, I knowe you meane not to take awaye any thinge from me, but rather to giue me sōme if I should aske it of you. By and by this seruant thiefe casteth the klok that he caried on his arme about this poore mans face, that he should not marke or vew them, with sharp words to deliuer quicly that he had and to confesse truly what was in his purse. This poore man then al

abashed yelded and confessed he had but iust seuen shillings in his purse, and the truth is he knew of no more. This old angel was falen out of a litle purse into the botome of a great purse. Now this seuen shillings in whyt money they quickly found, thinkinge in deed that there had bene no more, yet farther groping and searching, found this old angell. And with great admiration this gentle man theefe began to blesse him, saying: good Lorde what a worlde is this, howe maye (quoth hee) a man beleue or trust in the same, see you not (quod he) this old knaue tolde me that he had but seuen shillings, and here is more by an angell, what an old knaue and a false knaue haue we here (quoth this rufflar) our lord haue mercy on vs, will this worlde neuer bee better, and therewith went their waye, and lefte the olde man in the wood doing him no more harme. But sorowfull sighinge this olde man returning home declared his misadventure, with al the words and circumstances aboue shewed, whereat for the tyme was great laughing, and this pore man for his losses among his louing neighbours well considered in the ende.

C A P. II.

¶ A UPRYGH T MAN.

A UPRYGH T man the second in secte of this vnsemely sort must be next placed, of these rainging rablement of rascals, some be serving men, artificers, and laboring men, traded vpp in husbādry: These not minding to get their liuing with the sweat of their face, but casting of all payne, wil wander after their wicked maner, through the most shyres of this realme.

As Sommerset shyre, Wyll shyre, Barke shyre, Oxforde shyre, Harforde shyre, Myddilsex, Essex, Suffolke, Northfolke, Sussex, Surrye, and Kent, as the chiefe and best shyres of reliefe. Yea not without punishment by stockes, whyppinges, and imprisonment, in most of these places aboue sayd: yet notwithstandinge they haue so good lyking in their lewde lecherous loyteringe, that

full quicklye all their punishmentes be forgotten. And repent-
aunce is neuer thought vpon, vntil they clyme thrée trées with a
ladder. These vnrewly rascals in their roylinge, disperse them
selues into seuerall companies, as occasion serueth, sometime
more and sometime lesse. As if they repayre to a poore husband-
mans house, hée will go alone or one with him, and stoutely de-
maund his charitie, eyther shewing how he hath served in the
warres and their maymed, eyther that he seeketh seruice and sayth
he would be gladde to take payne for hys lyuinge, althoughe he
meaneth nothing lesse: If he be offered anye meate or drinke, he
vtterly refuseth scornfullye, and will nought but money, and if
he espye yong pygges or poultry, he well noteth the place, and
then the next night or shortly after, he wil be sure to haue some
of them, which they bringe to their stawlinge kens, whiche is their
tippling houses, as well knowen to them according to the olde
prouerbe (as the begger knows his dishe.) For you must vnder-
stand euery typplyng ale house wil neither receiue them or their
wares but some certayne houses, in every shyre, especially for that
purpose, where they shalbe better welcome to them, then honest
men; for by such have they most gayne, and shalbe conuayd
either into some loft out of the way, or other secret corner not
common to any other, and thither repayre at accustomed tymes
their harlotes which they terme mortes and doxes, not with emty
hands, for they be as skilfull in picking, riffling and filching, as the
vpriht men, and nothing inferior to them in all kinde of wickednes,
as in other places hereafter they shalbe touched. At these foresaid
pelting peuish places and vnmanerly meetings, O how the pottes
walk about, their talking tounge talke at large: They bowle and
bowse one to another, and for the tyme bowsing belly chere. And
after ther ruysting recreatiō if there be not rome ynough in the
house, they haue cleane straw in some barne or backe house nere
adioining, where they couch comly together, as it were dogge and
byche, and he that is hardyest may haue his choyce, vnlesse for a
little good maner, some wil take their own that they haue made
promyse vnto vntill they be out of sight, and accordinge to the
olde adage (out of minde.) Yet these vpriht men stand so much
vpon their reputatiō, as thei wil in no case haue their wemen walke

with them, but sepeate themselues for a time, a moneth or more. And mete at fayres or great markets where they mete to pilfer and steale from staules, shoppes, or boothes. At these fayres the vpright men, vse commonly to lye, and lingar in hie wayes by lanes, some prety way or distance frō the place, by which wayes they be assured that company passeth still to and fro, and there they will demaund with cap in hand and comly curtesye, the deuotion and charitie of ye people. They haue been much lately whipped at fayrs. If they aske at a stout yemans or farmers house his charity, thei wil goe strong as thre or foure in a company: where for feare more then good will, they often haue reliefe, they seldome or neuer passe by a justices house, but haue by wayes, vnlesse he dwell alone, and but weakely manned, thither will they also goe strong after a slye suttle sorte, as with their armes bounde up with kercher or lyste, hauinge wrapt about the same filthy clothes, eyther their legges in such maner be wrapped halting down right, nor vnprouided of good codgils, which they cary to sustayne them, and as they fayne to kēepe dogges from them, when they come to such good gentlemens houses, if any searche be made or they suspected for pilfering clothes of hedges, or breaking of houses which they commonly do, when the owners bēe eyther at the market, church, or other wayes occupied about their busines, either robbe some sely man or woman by the hie way, as many times they do. The n they hygh them into wodes, great thickets, and other ruffe corners, where they lye lurking three or foure dayes togyther, and haue meate and drinke brought them by theyr mortes and doxes: and whyle they thus lye hidden in couert, in the night they be not idle, neither as the common saying is (wel occupied) for then as the wyly foxe, creping out of his den, seketh his praye for pultery, so do these for linnen and any thing else worth money, that lyeth about or nere a house. As sometime a whole buck of clothes caried away at a time. When they haue a greater booty, then they may cary away quickly to their stawlinge kennes as is aboue said, they will hyde the same for a thre dayes in some thicke couert, and in the night time cary the same lyke good water spannels to their foresayd houses, to whom they will discouer where or in what places they had the same where the

markes shalbe picked out cleane, and conuayd craftely far of to sell if the mā or woman of the house want money themselves: and if these vpright men haue nether money nor wares, at these houses they shalbe trusted for their vitalles, and it amount to twenty or thirty shillings: yea if it fortune any of these vpright men to be taken, either suspected or charged with felony or pety brybrye don at such a time or such a place, he will saye he was in his hostes house. And if the mā or wyfe of that house be examined by an officer, they boldely vouche that they lodged him such a time, whereby the truth cannot appeare. And if they chance to be retained into seruice, through their lamentable wordes, with any welthy mā they will tary but a small time, either robbing his maister, or some of his fellowes. And some of them vseth this policy, that althoughe they trauaill into all these shyres aboue said, yit wil thei haue good credite, especially in one shyre, where at diuers good farmers houses they be well knowne, wher thei worke a moneth in a place or more and will for that time behaue themselues very honestly and paynfully. And may at any time for their good vsage haue woorke of them, and to these at a dead lift or last refuge, thei may safely repayre vnto, and be welcom, when in other places for a knacke of knauery that they haue plaid thei dare not tary. These vpright mē will sildom or neuer want, for what is gotten by any morte or doxe, if it please him hēe doth commaund the same: and if he mete any begger, whether he be sturdy or impotent, he will demand of him whether euer hee was stalled to the roge or no. If he say he was, he will know of whom, and his name yt stalled him. And if he be not learnedly able to shew him the whole circumstance thereof, he will spoyle him of his money, either of his best garment if it be worth any money, and haue him to the bowsing ken: which is, to some typpling house next adioyninge and layth ther to gage the best thing that he hath for twenty pence or two shillings: this man obeyeth for feare of beating. Then dooth this vpright man call for a gage of bowse, which is a quarte potte of drinke and powres the same vpon his peld pate, adding these words I G. P. do stalle thēe W. T. to the Roge, and that from hencefoorth it shalbe lawfull for thēe to cant, that is to aske or begge for thi liuing in al

places. Here you see that the vpright man is of gret aucturity for all sortes of beggers are obedient to his hests, and surmounteth all tothers in pylfiring and stealing. ¶ I lately had standinge in my wel house which standeth on the backside of my house a great cawdron of copper being then full of water, hauing in the same halfe a dozen of pewter dishes well marked and stamped with the conizance of my armes: which beeinge well noted when they were taken out were set a side, the water powred out, and my caudron taken away, being of such bignes that one man vnlesse he wer of great strength was not able far to cary the same. Notwithstandinge the same was one night within this two yeares, conuayed more than half a myle from my house, into a commen or heth, and ther bestowed in a gret firbushe. I then immediatly the next day sent one of my men to London and there gaue warning in Southwark, Kent strete, and Barmesey streat, to al the Tynckars there dwelling, that if any such caudron came thither to be sold, the bringar thereof should be stayed, and promised twenty shillings for a reward. I gave also intelligence to the wattermen that kept the ferres that no such vessell should be eyther conueyed to London, or into Essex, promising the lyke reward, to haue vnderstanding thereof. This my doing was well vnderstand in many places about, and that the feare of espying so troubled the conscience of the stealer, that my caudron lay untouched in the thicke firbushe more then halfe a yere: after which by a great chaunce was found by hunters for conneis: for one chaunced to runne into the same bushe where my caudron was, and being perceyved, one thrust hys staffe into the same bushe and hyt my caudron a great blow, the sound whereof dyd cause the man to thinke and hope that there was some great treasure hidden, wherby he thought to be the better whyle hee lyved. And in further searching he found my caudron, so had I the same agayn vnloked for.

C A P. III.

¶ A HOKER OR ANGLEAR.

THESE hokers or Anglers be perillous and most wicked knaues, and be deriued or procede forth from the vpright men, they commonly goe in fréese yerkyne and gally sloppes, pointeth beneth the knée: these when they practise their pilfryng, it is al by night, for as they walk a day times from house to house to demaund charitie, thei vigilantly mark where, or in what place they may attayne to there pray, casting their eyes vp to euery window, wel noting what they see ther, whether apparell or linnen, hanging neere vnto the sayde wyndows, and that wil they be sure to haue the next night folowing, for they customably cary with them a staffe of v. or vi. foote long, in which, within one inch of the top thereof is a little hole bored through: in which hole they putte an yron hoke, and with the same they will pluck vnto them quikly any thing that thei may reach therwith, which hoke in the day time they couertly cary about thē, and is neuer sene or taken out till they come to the place where they worke their feat, such haue I sene at my house and haue oft talked with them and haue handled their staues not then understanding to what vse or intent thei serued, although I had and perceyued by their talke and behauour great likelihode of euill suspition in them, they wil either leane vpon their staffe to hide the hole therof, when they talk with you, or hold their hande vpon the hole, and what stuffe either wollen or linnen, they thus hoke out, thei neuer cary the same forthwith to their stauling kens, but hides the same a iii. daies in some secret corner, and after conueis the same to their houses abouesaid where their host or hostys giueth them money for the same but half the value that it is worth, or els their doxes shal a far of sell the same at the like houses. I was credibly informed that a hoker came to a farmers house in the dead of the night, and puttinge backe a drawe windowe of a low chamber, the bed standing hard by the said window, in whiche lay thrée per-

sons, a man and two bigge boyes: this hoker wyth hys staffe plucked of their garments which lay vpon them to keep them warme, with the couerlet and shete, and left them lying a slepe naked sauing their shyrtes, and had away all cleane and neuer could understand where it became. I verely suppose that when they were wel waked with cold, they surely thought that Robin good fellow, (according to the old saying) had bene with them that night.

CAP. IV.

¶ A R O G E.

A R O G E is neither so stout or hardy as the vpright man: Many of them will go fayntly and loke piteously when they see eyther méete any person, hauing a kercher as white as my shoes tyed about their head, with a short staffe in their hand, halting althoughe they nede not, requiring almes of such as thei mete or to what house thei shal come. But you may easely perceue by their coloure that they cary both helth and hipocrisy about them, whereby they get gain, when others want that cannot fayne and dissemble. Others there be that walke sturdely about the coutry, and faineth to seke a brother or kinsmā of his, dwelling within som part of the shier ether that he hath a letter to deliuer to som honest housholder dwelling out of an other shyre, and wil shewe you the same fayre sealed, with the superscription to the party he speaketh of, because you shall not thinke him to runne idelly about the countrey, either haue they this shifte, they will cary a certificat or passport about them from some justicer of the peace, with his hand and seale vnto the same, how hée hath bene whipped and punished for a vagabonde according to the lawes of this realme and that he must returne to T. where he was borne or last dwelt, by a certayn day limited in the same, which shalbe a good long day. And all this fayned, because without feare they woulde wickedly wander, and wil renewe the same where or when it

pleaseth them; for they haue of their affinitie that can write and reade. These also will picke and steale as the vpright men, and hath their women and méetings at places appoynted, and nothing to them inferiour in all kind of knauery. There be of these Roges Curtales, wearing short clokes, that will change their apparell as occasion serueth, and their end is eyther hanging, which they call Trining in their language, or dye miserably of the pockes.

¶ There was not long sithens two Roges that always did associate themselues together and would neuer seperat themselues vnless it were for some especial causes, for thei were sworn brothers, and were both of one age and much like of fauor: these two traueilling into east Kent, resorted vnto an ale house, being wried with traueling, saluting with short curtesie (when they came into the house) such as thei saw sitting there: in which cōpany was the parson of the parish, and calling for a pot of the best ale, sat down at the tables end: the liquor liked them so well that they had pot vpon pot, and sometime for a litle good maner would drink and offer the cup to uch as thei best fancied, and to be short they sat out al the cōpany, for ech man departed home about their busines: when they had well refreshed themselues, then these rowsy roges requested the good man of the house with his wife to sit down and drink with them: of whom thei inquired what priest the same was and wher he dwelt, then thei faining that they had an vnkle a priest, and that he should dwell in these partes, which by al presumptions it should be he, and that they came of purpose to speak with him, but bicause thei had not séen him sithens they were six yeares old, they durst not be bold to take acquaintāce of him vntil thei wer farther instructed of the truth, and began to inquire of his name, and how long he had dwelt there, and how far his house was of from the place they were in, the good wyfe of the house, thinkinge them honest men without disceit, bicause they so far enquired of their kinsman, was but of a good zelous natural intent, shewed them chéerefully that he was an honest man and wel beloued in the parish and of good welth, and had ben there resident xv. yeares at the least, but saith she, are you both brothers? yea surely said they, wee haue bene both in one belly and were twinnes: mercy God quoth this folishe woman, it

may well be, for ye be not much vnlike, and went vnto her hall window calling these yong men vnto her, and looking out pointed with her finger and shewed them the house standing alone, no house neere the same by almost a quarter of a myle, that sayd she is your vncles house: nay saith one of them he is not onely my uncle, but also my godfather, it may well be quoth shee, nature will bind him to bee the better vnto you: well quod they, we be weary and mean not to trouble our vncle to night, but to morrow God willinge, wee will see him and do our duty. But I pray you doth our vncle occupye husbandry, what company hath he in his house? alas saith shée, but one old woman and a boy, he hath no occupying at all: tush quoth this good wife you be mad men, go to him this night for he hath better lodging for you than I haue and yit I speak folishly against myne own profit, for by your tarying here I should gayn the more by you. Now by my troth quoth one of them, we thank you good hostes for your holsom coucell, and we meane to do as you will vs, we will pause a while and by that time it wilbe almost nyght, and I pray you geve vs a reckening (so manerly paying for that they tooke) bad their hoste and hostes farewell with taking leaue of the cup, marched merely out of the dores towards this parsons house, vewed the same well roūd about and passed by two bowshotes of into a yong wood where they laye consulting what they should do vntill midnight: quoth one of them (of sharper wyt and subtiller then the other) to his fellow, thou seest that this house is stone walled about, and that we cannot wel break in, in any part thereof: thou séest also that the windowes be thicke of mullions, that there is no kreping in betwene, wherfore we must of necessity vse some pollicy when strength will not serue. I have a horse locke here about me, saith he, and this I hope shall serue oure turne: so when it was about xii of the clock they came to the house and lurked nere vnto his chamber windowe: the dog of the house barked a good, that with the noise, this priest waketh out of his sleepe, and began to cough and hem: then one of these roges steps forth neerer the window and maketh a rufull and pitifull noyse, requiring for Christ sake some relief that was both hungry and thirsty and was like to lye without the dores all night and

starue for cold, vnles he were reléeued by him with some small piece of money. Where dwellest thou, quoth this parson? alas syr sayth this roge, I haue small dwelling, and haue come out of my way: and I should now saith he, go to any towne now at this tyme of night, they would set me in the stockes and punish me: well quoth this pitifull parson, away from my house, eyther lye in some of my outhouses vntil the morning, and hold here is a couple of pence for thée. A God reward you, quoth this roge, and in heauen may you find it. The parson opened his window and thrusteth out his arme to giue his almes to this roge that came whining to receive it, and quickly taketh hold of his hand and calleth his fellow to him, which was redy at hand with the horse lock and clappeth the same about the wrest of his arme that the mullions standing so close together for strength, that for his lyfe he could not pluck in his arme again, and made him beleue, vnless he would at the least give him iii. pound, they would smite of his arme from the body, so that this poore parson in feare to lose his hand, called vp his old woman that lay in the loft ouer him, and willed her to take out all the money he had, which was iiii. markes, which he said was all the money in his house, for he had lent vi. pound to one of his neighbors not iiii. days before. Well quoth they, maister parson if you haue no more, vpon this condicion we will take of the locke that you will drink xii. pence for our sakes to morow at the ale house where we found you and thāk the good wyfe for the good chere she made vs: he promised faithfully that he would so do: so they toke of the lock and went their way so far ere it was day, that the parson coulde neuer haue any vnderstanding more of them: now this parson sorrowfully slumbering that night betwene feare and hope, though it was but folly to make two sorows of one, he vsed cōtentation for his remedy, not forgettyng in the morning to performe his promise but wēt betimes to his neighbour that kept tipling, and asked angerly where the same two men were that drank with her yester daye: which two men quoth this good wyfe? the straungers that came in, when I was at your house with my neighbors yesterday: what your neuwes quoth she. My neuews quoth this parson, I trow thou art mad. Nay by God quoth this wife, as sober as

you, for they told me faithfully that you wer ther vnkle, but in faith are you not so in déed, for by my troth they are straungers to me, I neuer saw them before. O out vpon them quoth the parson, thei be false theues, and this night they cōpelled me to give them all the money in my house. Benedicite quoth this good wife, and have they so in déed? as I shall aunswere before God, one of them told me besides that you were godfather to him and that he trusted to haue your blessinge before he departed, what did he, quoth this parson, a halter blesse him for me, me thinketh by the masse by your countenance you loked so wildly when you came in quoth this good wyfe, that somthing was amis: I vse not to jest quoth this parson, when I speak so earnestly, why all your sorowes goe with it quoth this good wife, and sit downe here and I will fil a freshe pot of ale to make you mery again, yee saith this parson fil in and giue me some meat, for they made me swear and promise them faithfully that I should drinke xii. pence with you this day? what did they quoth she, nowe by the mary masse they bee mery knaues, I warrant you they meane to bye no lande with your money: but how could they come vnto you in the night, your dores being shut fast? your house is very strong, then this parson shewed her all the whole circumstance how he gave thē his almes, out at the window, they made such lamentable crye, that it pitied him at the hart, for he sawe but one when he put out his hand at the window, be ruled by me quoth this good wyfe, wherein quoth this parson, by my troth neuer speake more of it, when they shal vnderstand of it in the parish they will but laugh you to skorne, why then quoth this parson, the deuill goe with it, and their an ende.

C A P. V.

¶ A WYLDE ROGE.

A WILDE Roge is he that is borne a Roge, he is more subtill and more gyuen by nature to all kind of knauery then the other, as beastly begotten in barn or bushes, and from his infancy traded

vp in trechery: yea and before rypenes of yeares doth permit, wallowing in lewd lechery, but that is counted amongst them no sin. For this is their custome, that when they méete in barne at night, euery one getteth a mate to lye withall, and there chaunce to be twentye in a company, as their is sometimes more, and sometimes lesse: for to one man that goeth abroad, ther ar at the least two women, which neuer make it straunge when they bee called, although shee neuer knew him before. Then when the day doth appeare, hée rouses him up and shakes his eares, and away wandering where he maye gette ought to the hurt of others. Yet before he skypeth out of his couche and departeth from his darling (if he like her well) he will appoynte her where to méete shortly after, with a warning to worke warely for some chetes, that their méeting might be the merier.

Not long sithens, a wild roge chaunced to mete a pore neighbor of mine who for honesty and good nature surmounteth many. This pore man riding homeward from London, where he had made his market: this roge demaunded a peny for Gods sake to keepe him a true man. This simple man beholding him wel, and saw he was of tale personage with a good quarter staffe in his hand, it much pitied him as he sayd to sée him want, for he was well able to serue his prince in the warres. Thus being moved with pitie, loked in his purse too find out a peny, and in loking for the same, he plucked out viii. shillings in whyte money, and raked therein to find a single peny, and at the last finding one, doth offer the same to this wild roge, but he séing so much moneyn in this simple mans hand, beeing stricken to the hart with a couetous desire, bid him forthwith to deliuer all that hée had, or else he would with his staffe beat out his braynes: for it was not a peny would now quench his thirst séeing so much as he dyd: thus swallowing his spittel gredely down, spoyled this poore man of all the money that hee had, and lept ouer the hedge into a thicke wood, and went his way as merely as this good simple man came home sorowfully. I once rebuking a wilde Roge, because he wente idelly about: he shewed me that he was a begger by inheritance, his grandfather was a begger, his father was one, and he must nedes be one by good reason.

C A P. VI.

A PRIGGER OF PRAUNCERS.

A PRIGGER of Prauncers be horse stealers, for to prigge signifieth in their language to steale, and a Prauncer is a horse, so being put together, the matter was playn. These go commonly in jerkins of leather or whyte fréese, and cary little wands in their hands, and will walke through grounds and pastures, to search and sée horses méte for their purpose, and if they chaunce to be met and asked by the owners of the ground what they make there, they fayne strayghte that they haue lost their way, and desire to be instructed the best waye to such a place. These will also repayre to gentlemen's houses and aske their charitie, and will offer their seruice. And if you aske thē what they can doe, they will say that they can kéepe two or three geldings and wayte vpon a gentleman. These haue also their women that walking from them in other places, marke where and what they sée abroadē, and sheweth these priggars thereof, whē they méet, which is within a wéeke or two, and looke where they steale any thinge, they conuey the same at the least thrée score myles of or more.

¶ There was a gentleman, a very friend of myne, ryding from London homeward into Kent, hauinge wyth in thrée myles of hys house businesse, alyghted of his horse, and his man also, in a pretye village, where diuers houses were, and looked about him where he might haue a conuenient person to walke his horse, because he would speake with a farmer that dwelt on the backe side of the sayde villag litle aboue a quarter of a mile from the place where he lighted and had his man to waight vpon him, as it was mete for his callinge, espying a Priggar there standing, thinking the same to dwel there, charging this prety prigging person to walke his horse well, and that they might not stand still for taking of colde, and at his returne (which he said should not be longe) he would give him a peny to drinke, and so went about his busines. This pelting Priggar, proud of his praye, walketh his horse up

and downe, tyll he sawe the gentleman out of sight, and leapes him into the saddell, and away he goeth a mayne. This gentleman returnynge, and fyndinge not his horses, sent his man to the one end of the village, and he went himselfe vnto the other end, and enquired as he went for his horses that were walked, and began somewhat to suspecte, bicause neither he nor his man could see nor find him. Then this gentleman diligently enquired of thre or foure town dwellers there, whether any such person, declaring his stature, age, apparell, with so many linaments of his body as he could call to remembrance. And *vna voce* all sayde that no such man dwelt in their streat, neither in the parish that thei knew of, but somy did wel remember that such a one they saw ther lyrking and huggering twoo houres before the gentleman came thither and a straunger to them. I had thought quoth this gentleman, he had here dwelled, and marched home manerly in his botes far from the place he dwelt not. I suppose at his comming home he sent such wayes as he suspected or thought méete to searche for thys Prigger, but hetherto he never hard any tydings againe of his palfreys. I had the best gelding stolen out of my pasture that I had amongst others, whyle this booke was first a printing.

CAP. VII.

¶ A PALLYARD.

THESE Palliards be called also Clapperdogens, these go wit patched clokes, and haue their mortis with them which they cal wiues: and if he goe to one house to aske his almes, his wyfe shall go to another, for what they get, as bread, chéese, malte, and woll, they sel the same for redy money, for so they get more, and if they went together, although they be thus deuided in the daye, yet they meete iompe at night: if they chaunce to come to some gentilmans house standinge alone, and be demaunded whether they be man and wyfe, and if he perceyue that any doubteth

thereof, he sheweth them a testimonial with the ministers name and others of the same parishe, naminge a parish in some shyre far distant from the place where he sheweth the same. This writing he carieth to salue that sore: there be many Irish men that go about with counterfeit licences, and if they perceyue you will straitly examin them, they will immediately say they can speake no English.

¶ Farther vnderstand for truth, that the worst and wickedst of all this beastly generation ar scarce comparable to these prating Pallyards. All for ye most part of these will either lay to their legs an herb called sperewort, either arsnicke, which is called ratesbane. The nature of this spereworte will rayse a great blyster in a night upō the soundest part of his body, and if ye same be taken away, it wil dry vp again and no harme. But this arsnick will so poyson the same legge or sore, that it wil euer after be incurable, this do thei for gayn and to be pitied. The most of these that walke about be walchmen.

C A P. VIII.

A FRATER.

SOME of these Fraters wil cary black boxes at their girdel, wherin they haue a brieve of the Quenes maiesties letters patents given to such poore spittle house for the relief of ye poore there, whiche brief is a coppie of the letters patents, and vtterly fained, if it be in paper or in parchment without the great seal: also if ye same brief be in print, it is also of authoritie. For ye printers wil see and well vnderstād before it com in presse, that the same is lawful. Also I am credibly informed that the chief proctors of many of these houses, that seldome trauel abroad thēselues, but haue their factors to gather for thē, which looke very slenderly to the impotent and miserable creatures cōmitted to their charge, and die for wāt of cherishīg whereas they and their wiues are wel crāmed and cloted and wil haue of the best: And the founders of

every such house, or the chief of the parish wher they be, would better see vnto these proctors, that they might do their duty, thei should be wel spokē of here, and in the world to come aboūdantly therfore rewarded. I had of late an honest man and of good wealth, repayred to my house to common with me about certayne affaires. I inuited the same to dinner, and dinner being done, I demaunded of him some newes of these parties where hee dwelt. Thankes be to God syr (saith he) all is well and good now. Now (quoth I) this same now declareth yt some things of late hath not bene wel. Yes syr (quoth he) the matter is not great. I had thought I should haue bene well beaten within this seuenth night: how so (quoth I) mary syr said hee, I am constable for fault of a better, and was commaunded by the justicer to watch. The watch being set, I toke an honest man one of my neighbours with me and went vp to the end of the town as farre as the spittle house: at which house I heard a great noyse, and drawing neere stode close vnder the wall, and this was at one of the clocke after midnight, where he harde swearing, pratinge, and wagers laying, and the pot apace walking, and xl. pence gaged upon a matter of wrastling, pitching of the barre, and casting of the sledge: and out they go in a fustian fume into the back syde, where was a great axiltry, and there fell to pitching of the bar, being thrée to thrée: the moone did shyne bright, the constable with his neighbour might see and beholde al that was done. And howe the wyfe of the house was roasting of a pyg, whyle her gestes were in their match. At the last they could not agré vpon a caste and fell at wordes, and from wordes to blowes. The constable wyth his fellowe runnes vntoo them to parte them, and in the parting lyckes a drye blowe or two. Then the noyse increased, the constable would haue had them too the stockes. The wyfe of the house runnes out with hir good man to intreat the constable for her gestes, and leaues the pyg at the fyre alone. In commeth two or thrée of the next neighboures being waked with the noyse, and into the house they come and fynde none therein but the pygge well roasted, and carieth the same away with them, spit and all, with such breade and drinke also as stooode vpon the table. When the goodman and the good wyfe of the house had intreated

and pacified the constable, shewing vnto him that they were proctors and factors, all of spyttle houses, and that they taryed there but to breake their faste, and woulde ryde away immediately after, for they have farre to goe, and therefore mente to ryde so earely. And comminge into their house agayn, fyndinge the pygge with bread and drinke al gone, made a great exclamation, for they knew not who had the same.

The constable returning and hearing the lamentable words of the good wyfe how she had lost both meate and drinke, and sawe it was so in deed, he laughed in his sleue, and commaund her to dresse no more at vnlawful houres for any gestes: for he thought it better bestowed vpon those smel feastes his pore neighbours, then vppon suche sturdye lubbares. The next morninge betymes, the spitte and pottes were set at the spittle house doore for the owner. Thus were these factours begyled of their breakfast, and one of them had wel beaten an other: and by my troth (quoth this constable) I was glad when I was well ryd of them. Why quoth I, could they cast the barre and sledge well? I will tell you syr (quoth hée) you know there hath bene many games this sommer, I thinck verely, that if some of these lubbars had bene there, and practysed amongst others, I beleue they would have caryed awaye the best games: for they were so stronge and sturdy that I was not able to stand in their handes. Well (quoth I) at these games you speak of, both legges and armes be tryed: yea (quoth this officer) they be wicked men. I haue seene some of them sithens with cloutes bounde aboute their legges, and halting with their staffe in their handes. Wherefore some of them (by God) be all naught.

CAP. IX.

¶ A ABRAHAM MAN.

THESE Abraham men be those that fayn themselues to haue bene mad, and haue bene kept either in Bethelem, or in some other pryson a good time, and not one amongst twenty that euer came

in prison for any such cause: yet will they say how pityously and moste extremely they haue bene beaten and dealt with all. Some of these be mery and very pleasaunt, they will daunce and sing, some others be as colde and reasonable to talke withall. These begge money, eyther when they come at farmoures houses, they will demaund baken, eyther chéese, or wool, or any thinge that is worth money, and if they espye small company within, they will with firce countenance demaunde somewhat. Where for feare the maydes will giue them largely to be ryd of them.

¶ If they may conueniently come by any cheate, they wil picke and steale, as the vpright man or roge, poultreys or lynnens. And all wemen that wander, be at their commaundement. Of all that euer I sawe of this kinde, one naming him selfe Stradelinge, is the craftiest and moste dissemblingest knaue. Hée is able wyth hys tounge and vsage, to deceyue and abuse the wysest man that is. And surely for the proporcion of his body, with euery member thereunto appartayning, it cannot be amended. But as the prouerbe is (God hath done his part.) This Stradling sayth he was the Lorde Sturtons man, and when he was executed for very pensiuenes of minde he fell out of his witte, and so continued a yere after and more, and that with the very gréefe and feare, he was taken with a maruelous palsey, that both head and handes will shake when he talketh with any and that apace or faste, whereby he is much pytied, and getteth greatly. And if I hadde not demaunded of others both men and women, that commonly walketh as he doth, and knowne by them his dépe dissimulation, I neuer had understande the same. And thus I end with these kinde of vagabondes.

C A P. X.

¶ A FRESHE WATER MARINER OR WHIPIACKE.

THESE fresh water Mariners, their shippes were drowned in the playne of Salisbury. These kinde of caterpillers, counterfet great losses on the sea, these be some western men, and moste bee Irish

men. These will runne about the countrey with a counterfet licence, fayninge eyther shipwracke, or spoyled by pyrates, neare the coaste of Cornwall or Deuonshyre and set a lande at some hauen towne there, hauing a large and formall writinge, as is aboue sayd, with the names and scales of such men of woorshippe at the least foure or fiue as dwelleth neare or next to the place where they fayne their landing. And neare to those shyres will they not begge vntill they come into Wylshyre, Hamshyre, Barke-shyre, Ocfordshyre, Harfordshyre, Middelsex, and to London, and downe by the ryuer to seeke for their shippe and goods that they neuer hadde, then passe they through Surrey, Sussex, by the sea coastes, and so into Kent, demaunding almes to bringe them home to their countrey.

Sometime they counterfet the seale of the Admiraltie, I have diuers times taken awaye from them their licences of both sortes, with such money as they have gathered, and haue confiscated the same to the pouertie nighe adioininge to me. And they will not be longe without an other, for at any good towne they will renewe the same. Once with muche threatninge and fayre promises, I required to knowe of one companye who made their licence. And they sware that they bought the same at Portsmouth of a mariner there, and it cost them two shillings, with such warrants to bee so good and effectual, that if any of the best men of lawe or learned aboute London shoulde peruse the same, they were able to fynde no faute herewith, but would assuredly allow the same.



These two pictures lyuely set out,
 One body and soule, God send him more grace :
 This monstrous dissembler, a Cranke all about.
 Uncomly coueting of eche to imbrace,
 Money or wares, as he made his race.
 And somtyme a mariner, and a seruing man :
 Or els an artificer, as he would fayne than.
 Such shiftes he vsed, being well tryed,
 Abandoning labour till he was espyed :
 Conding punishment for his dissimulation,
 He surely receyved with much exclamation.

C A P. XI.

A COUNTERFET CRANKE.

THESE that do counterfet the Cranke be yong knaues and yonge harlots, that déeplý dissemble the falling sicknes. For the Crank in their language is the fallinge evill. I have séene some of these with fayre writings testimonials, with the names and seales of some men of worship in Shropshyre, and in other shires farre of, that I haue wel known and haue taken the same from them. Many of these do go without writings, and will go halfe naked, and looke most pitiously. And if any clothes be giuen them, they immediately sell the same, for weare it they will not, because they would be the more pitied, and weare filthy clothes on their heads, and neuer goe without a péce of whyte sope about them, which if they see cause or present gayn, they will priuely conuay the same into their mouth, and so worke the same there, that they will foam as it were a boore, and maruelously for a tyme torment them selues, and thus deceiue they the common people, and gayne much. These haue commonly their harlots as the other.

¶ Uppon Alhallonday in the morning last Anno Domini 1566, or my boke was halfe printed, I meane the first impression, there came earely in the morninge a counterfet Cranke, vnder my lodg-inge at the whyte Fryers within the cloyster, in a little yard or court wher abouts lay two or thre great ladyes, being without the liberties of London, whereby he hoped for the greater gayne: this Cranke there lamentably lamenting, and pitifully crying to be relieved, declared to diuers there hys paynful and miserable disease. I being rysen and not halfe ready, hard his dolful words and ruful mournings, hearīg him name the fallen sicknes, thought assuredlye to my selfe, that hee was a dépe dessembler: so comming out at a sodayne, and beholding his ougly and yrksome attyre, his lothsom and horrible cōutenance, it made me in a maruelous perplexity what to think of him, whether it were fained or trueth, for after this maner went he: he was naked from ye wast vpward, sauing

he had an old jerkin of leather, patched, and that was lose about him, that all his bodye lay out bare, a filthy foul cloth he ware on his head, being cut for the purpose, having a narrow place to put out his face, with a bauer made to trusse vp his beard, and a string that tyed the same down close about his necke, with an old felt hat which he still caried in his hand, to receyue the charitye and deuotion of the people, for that would he hold out from him, hauing his face from the eyes downward, all smerd with fresh bloud, as though he had new fallen, and bin tormented with his paynefull panges, his ierkin being all berayed with durte and myre, and hys hatte and hosen also, as thoughe hée hadde wallowed in the myer: surely the sight was monstrous and terrible. I called him vnto me and demaunded of him what he ayled. A good maister, quoth he, I haue the gréevous and payneful disease called the falling sicknes: why, quoth I, how commeth thy ierkin, hose and hat so berayd with durte and myer, and thy skin also? A good maister I fell down on the backesyde here in a fowle lane harde by the water syde, and there I laye almost all night, and haue bled all moste all the bloude out in my body. It raynd that morninge very faste: and whyle I was thus talking with him, a honest poore woman that dwelt thereby, brought him a fayre linnen cloth, and bid hym wype his face therewith, and there being a tobbe standing full of rayn water, offered to giue him some in a dishe, that he might make himselfe cleane, he refuseth the same: why dost thou so quoth I? A syr saith he, if I shoulde washe my selfe, I should fall to bleding a fresh agayne, and then I shoulde not stop my selfe: these words made me the more to suspecte hym. Then I asked of him where he was born, what his name was, how long he had this disease, and what time he had ben here about London, and in what place? syr (sayth he) I was borne at Leycestar, my name is Nicholas Genings, and I haue had this falling sicknes viii yeares, and I can get no remedy for the same, for I haue it by kind, my father had it, and my friends before mee, and I haue bene these two yeares here about London, and a yere and a half in Bethelém: why wast thou out of thy wittes, quoth I? yea syr that I was. What is the keepers name of the house? his name is (quoth he) John Smith: then quoth I, hée muste un-

derstande of thy disease, if thou hadest the same for the time thou wast there, he knoweth it wel, ye not only he, but all the house besyde, quoth this Cranke, for I came thens but within this fortnight. I had stand so longe reasoning the matter with him, that I was a cold and went into my chamber and made me ready, and commaunded my seruant to repayr to Bethlem and bring me true word from the kéeper there, whether anye suche man hath ben with him as a prisoner, hauing the disease aforesayd, and gaue him a note of his name and the kéeper also: my seruant returning to my lodging, dyd assure me that neyther was there euer any such man there, neither yet any keper of any suche name, but hee that was the kéeper sent mee his name in writing, affirminge that he letteth no man depart from him, vnlesse he be fet awaye by his friendes, and that none that came from him begged aboute the citie: then I sent for the printer of this booke, and shewed him of this dissembling Crank, and how I had sent to Bethelme to vnderstand the truth, and what aunswere I receiued againe, requiringe him that I might haue some seruant of his to watch him faythfully that daye, that I might understand trustely to what place he would repayre at night vnto, and thither I promysed to goe my selfe, to see their order, and that I would haue him to associate me thither: hee gladly graunted to my request, and sent two boyes that bothe diligently and vigilantly, accomlisht the charge giuen them, and found the same Cranke about the Temple, where about the most parte of the day he begged, vnlesse it were about xij. of the clocke, hee wente on the backsyde of Clementes Ine without Temple barre, there is a lane that goeth into the Fieldes, there hee renewed his face agayne with freshe bloud, which he caried about him in a bladder, and dawbed on fresh dyrt vpon his ierken, hat and hosen.

And so came backe agayne vnto the Temple, and sometime to the water syde, and begged of all that passed by: the boyes behelde how some gaue grotes, some sixe pence, some gaue more: for hee looked so ougly and yrksomly, that euery one pitied his miserable case that beheld him: to be shorte, there he passed all the daye tyll night approched and when it began to be som what dark, he went to the water syde and toke a skolloer, and was set

ouer the water into Saincte Georges fieldes, contrary to my expectation: for I had thought he would haue gonne into Holborne, or to saynt Gylles in the field: but these boyes with (Argues and Lynces eyes) sette sure watch uppon him, and the one toke a boate and followed him, and the other went back to tell his maister.

The boy that so folowed him by water, had no money to pay for his boate hyre, but layd his penner and his ynkhorne to gage for a penny, and by that tyme the boye was set ouer: his maister wyth all celeritie had taken a boate and followed him a pace. Now had they a syght still of the Cranke, whiche crossed ouer the fieldes towards Newington, and thither he went, and by that time they came thether, it was very darke. The printer had there no acquaintance, neyther any kinde of weapon about him, neyther knewe howe farre the Cranke would goe, because hee then suspected that they dogged him of purpose, hee there stayed him, and called for ye constable, which came foorth diligently, to inquire what the matter was. This zelous printer charged this officer with him as a malefactor, and a dissembling vagabond: the constable woulde haue layd him all night in the cage that stode in the streat: nay sayth this pytyfull printer, I pray you haue him into your house, for this is lyke to be a cold night and he is naked, you kepe a vittelling house, let him be well cherished this night, for he is well able to paye for the same, I knowe well his gaynes hath ben great to day, and your house is a sufficient pryson for the tyme, and we will there searche him: the constable agreed thereunto, they hadde him in and caused him to washe himself: that done, they demaunded what money hee had about him, sayth this Cranke, so God help me I haue but xij. pence, and plucked out the same of a little purse. Why haue you no more quoth they? no saith this Cranke, as God shall saue my soule at the day of iudgment. We must see more quoth they and began to strip him, then he plucked out another purse wherein was xl. pence. Tush sayth this printer I must see more, this Cranke sayth, I pray God I be damned both body and soule, if I haue any more: No saith this printer, thou false knaue here is my boye that did watch thee al this day, and sawe when suche men gaue thee peeces of sixe pence, grotes, and other money, and yit thou hast shewed vs

none but smal money. When this Cranke heard this, and the boy vowing it to his face, he relented and plucked out another purse wherein was eight shillings and od money, so had they in the whole that he had begged yt day xij. shillings iii. pence half peny: then they stript him starke naked, and as many as saw him, sayd they neuer saw hansummer mā, with a yellow flexen beard, and fayre skinned without any spot or greffe, then the good wyfe of the house fet her good mans old cloke, and caused the same to be cast about him, because the sight shoulde not abashe her shamefast maydens, neither loth hir squamish sight. Thus he set him downe at the chemnes end, and called for a pot of béere and dranke of a quart at a drafte, and called for another, and so the third, that one had ben sufficient for any reasonable man: the drynk was so stronge, that I my self the next morning tasted therof, but let the reader iudge what, and how much he would haue dronke if he had bene out of fear. Then when they had thus wrong water out of a flint, in spoylig him of his euill gottē goods, his passing pence and fleting trashe. The printer with this officer were in ioly ioylitie, and deuised to search a barne for som roges, and vpriht men, a quarter of a myle from the house, that stode alone in the fieldes, and wente out about their busines, leauing this Cranke alone with hys wyfe and maydens: this crafty Crāk espying all gon, requested ye good wife that he might go out on the backsyde to make water and to exonerat his paunch, she bad him draw the latch of the doore and go out, neither thinking or mistrusting he would haue gone away naked: but to cōclude when he was out, he cast away the cloke, and as naked as euer he was born he ran away ouer the fields to his own house, as hée afterward said. Now ye next morning betimes I wente untoo Newingtō to vnderstand what was don because I had worde or it was day that there my printer was, and at my comming thither I harde ye whole circūstance, as I aboue haue written: and I séeing the matter so fal out, toke order with the chief of ye parish that this xij. shillings and iij. pence halfpenny might be the next day equally distributed by their good discretions to the pouertie of the same parish, wherof this crafty Crank had part him selfe, for he had both house and wife in the same parishe, as after you shall

heare. But this lewde lewterar could not laye his bones to labour hauing got once the tast of this lewd lasy lyfe, for al this fayr admonition but deuised other suttel sleights to maintaine his ydell liuing, and so craftely clothed him selfe in mariners apparel, and asociated him self with an other of his companions, they hauing both mariners apparel, went abroad to aske charity of ye people, fayning they hadde loste their shippe with all their goods by casualty on the seas, wherewith they gayned much. This crafty Cranke fearinge to be mistrusted, fell to another kinde of begging as bad or worse, and apparelled himselfe very well with a fayre black frése cote, a newe payre of whyte hose, a fyne felt hat on his head, a shert of flaunders worke, esteemed to be worth xvi. shillings: and vpon newe yeares day came againe into the whyt Fryers to beg: the printer hauing occasion to go that ways, not thinking of this Cranke, by chaunce met with him who asked his charitie for Gods sake: the printer vewing him well did mistrust him, to be the counterfet Cranke which deceiued him vpon Alhollen daye at night, demaunded of whence he was and what was his name, forsoth saith he, my name is Nicolas Genings, and I came from Leicester to séeke worke, and I am a hat maker by my occupation, and all my money is spent, and if I coulde get money to paye for my lodging this night, I would seke work to morowe amongst the hatters. The printer perceiuing his depe dissimulation putting his hand into his purse seeming to giue him some money, and with fayre allusions brought him into the stréete, where he charged the constable with him, affirminge him to be the counterfet Cranke that ranne away vpon Alholon daye last. The constable being very loth to medle with him, but the printer knowing him and his depe disceit, desyred he mought be brought before the debutie of the ward, which straight was accomplished, which whē he came before the debuty, he demaunded of him of whence he was and what was his name, he answered as before he did vnto ye printer: the debutie asked the printer what he would laye vnto hys charge, he answered and aleged him to be a vagabond and depe deceyuer of the people, and the counterfet Crank that ran away vpon Alhallon day last from the constable of Newington and him, and requested him earnestly to send him to ward:

the debuty thinking him to be deceiued, but neuerthesse laid his cōmaundement vpon him, so that the printer should beare his charges if he could not iustifie it he agréed thereunto. And so he and the constable went to cary him to the Counter, and as they were going vnder Ludgate, this crafty Crank toke his héeles and ran down the hill as fast as he could dryve, the constable and the printer after him as fast as they coulde, but the printer of ye twayn being lighter of fote, ouertoke him at fleete bridge, and with strong hand caried him to the counter, and safely deliuered him. In ye morow ye printer sent his boy that stripped him vpon Alhalon day at night to view him because he would be sure, which boy knew him very well: this Crank confessed unto the debuty, yt he had hosted the night before in Kent stréet in Southwarke at the sign of the Cock, which thing to be true, the printer sente to know and found him a lyer, but further, inquiring at lénth found out his habitation, dwelling in maister Hilles rentes, hauinge a pretye house well stuffed with a fayre ioyne table, and a fayre cubbard garnished with peuter, hauing an old auncient woman to his wyfe. The printer being sure therof, repaired vnto the Counter, and rebuked him for his beastly behaviour, and told him of his false fayning, willed him to confesse it and aske forgivenes: he perceyued him to know his depe dissimulation, relented and confessed all his disceit, and so remayning in the counter thrée dayes, was removed to Brydwel where he was stript starke naked, and his ougly attyre put vpō him before the maisters thereof, who wondered greatly at his dissimulation: for which offence he stode upon the pillery in Cheapsyde, both in his ougly and handsome attyre. And after that went in the myll whyle his ougly picture was a drawing, and then was whypped at a cartes tayle through London, and his displayd banner caried before him, vnto his own dore, and so backe to Brydewell again, and there remayned for a tyme, and at length let at libertie on that condiciō he would proue an honest man and labour truly to get his liuing. And his picture remayneth in Bridewell for a monyment.

CAP. XII.

A D O M M E R A R.

THESE Dommerars are leude and moste subtile people, the moste part of these are Walch men, and will neuer speak, vnlesse they haue extrême punishment but will gape, and with a maruelous force will hold downe their tounge doubled, groning for your charitie, and holding vp their handes full piteously, so that with their déepe dissimulation they get very much. There are of these many, and but one that I vnderstand of hath lost his tounge in déed: hauing on a tyme occasion to ride to Dartford to speak with a priest there, who maketh all kind of cōserues very well, and vseth stilling of waters. And repaying to his house, I found a Dommerar at his doore, and the priest himselfe perusing his licence, vnder the seales and handes of certayne worshipfull men, had thought the same to bee good and effectual. I taking the same writing and reading it ouer and noting the seales, found one of the seales like unto a seale that I had about me: which seale I bought besides Charing crosse, that I was out of doubt it was none of those gentlemens seales that had subscribed. And hauing vnderstanding before of their peuish practises, made me to conceiue that al was forged and nought. I made the more haste home for wel I wist that he would and must of force passe through the parish where I dwelt, for there was no other way for him. And comming homeward, I found them in the towne accordinge to my expectation, wher they where staid, for there was a Palliard associate with the Dommerar and partaker of his gaynes, which Pallyarde I saw not at Darford. The staires of them was a gentleman called Chayne, and a seruant of my Lord Kéepers, called Wostestow, which was the chief causer of the staying of them, being a surgien and cunning in his science, had séene the like practises, and as he sayd hadde caused one to speake afore that was dome. It was my chaunce to come at the beginnīg of the matter. Syr (quoth this surgien) I am bold here to vtter some

part of my cunning, I trust (quoth he) you shall see a myracle wrought anon: for I once (quoth he) made a dumme man to speak. Quoth I you are wel met, and somewhat you haue preuented me, for I had thought to haue done no lesse or they hadde passed this towne, for I well knowe their writing is fayned, and they depe dissemblers. The surgien made him gape, and we could see but halfe a tounge. I required the surgien to put his finger in his mouth, and to pull out his tounge, and so he did, notwithstanding he held strongly a pretty while: at the length he pluckt out the same, to the great admiration of many that stode by: yet when we sawe his tounge, hee would neither speake nor yet could heare. Quoth I to the surgien, knit two of his fingers together and thrust a stycke betwene them, and rubbe the same vp and downe a little while, and for my lyfe he speaketh by and by. Syr quoth the surgien, I pray let me practise an other way, I was well contented to see the same. He had him into a house, and tyed a halter aboute the wrestes of his handes and hoysed him vp ouer a beam, and their did let him hang a good while at length for very paine he required for Gods sake to let him downe. So he that was both deafe and dumme could in short time both heare and speake. Then I tooke that money I could find in his purse, and distributed the same to the poore people dwelling there, which was xv. pence halfpeny, being all that wee could finde. That done, and this mery myracle madly made, I sent them with my seruant to the justicer, where they preached on the pyllery for want of a pulpet, and were well whipped, and none did bewaile them.

C A P. XIII.

A DRONKEN TINCKAR.

THESE dronken Tinkars called also pryggas, be beastly people, and these yong knaues be ye worst: these neuer go without their doxes and if their woman haue any thing about them, as apparell or linnen that is worth the selling, they lay the same to gage or

sell it out right (for bene house) at their bowsing ken. And full sone will they bée weary of them, and haue a new. When they happen one worke at any good house, their doxes lynger alooft, and tarry for them in some corner, and if he taryeth longe from her, then she knoweth he hath worke, and walketh neare, and sitteth downe by him. For besydes money he loketh for meate and drink for doing his dame pleasure. For if shée have three or four holes in a pan, he will make as many more for spedy gayne. And if he sée any olde kettle, chafer or peuter dish abroad in the yarde where he worketh he quickly snappeth the same up, and into the booget it goeth rounde. Thus they liue with deceyte.

¶ I was credibly informed by such as could well tell, that one of these tipling Tinkers with his dogge robbed by the high way iiii. Pallyards and two Roges six persons together, and toke from them aboue foure pound in ready money, and hidd him after in a thicke wood a day or two and so escaped untaken. Thus with picking and stealing, mingled with a little worke for a colour, they passe their time.

C A P. XIV.

¶ A SWADDER OR PEDLER.

THese Swadders and Pedlers be not all euill, but of an indifferent behaviour. These stand in great awe of the vpright men, for they have often both wares and mony of them. But for as much as they seeke gayne vnlawfully agaynst the lawes and statutes of this noble realme, they are well worthy to be registred among the number of vacabonds: and vndoubtedly I have hadde some of them brought before me when I was in commission of the peace as malefactors for brybering and stealing. And now of late it is a greate practice of the vpright man, when he had gotten a botye to bestowe the same vpon a packeful of wares, and so goeth a time for his pleasure, because he would lyue without suspicion.

C A P. XV.

A JARKE MAN, AND A PATRICO.

FOR as much as these two names a Jarkeman and a Patrico be in the old briefe of vacabonds, and set forth as two kinds of euil doers, you shall vnderstande that a Jarkeman hath hys name of a Jarke, which is a seale in their language, as one should make writings and set seales for licences and pasports. And for trueth there is none that goeth about the countrey of them that can eyther write so good and fayre a hand, eyther indite so learnedly as I haue sene and handled a number of them: but haue the same made in good townes where they come, as what can not be had for money, as the prouerbe saith, *Omnia venalia Romæ*, and many hath confessed the same to me. Now also there is a Patrico, and not a Patriarcha, whiche in their language is a priest that should make mariages till death did depart but they have none such I am well assured, for I put you out of dout that not one amongst a hundreth of them are married, for they take lechery for no sinne, but natural felowship and good liking loue, so that I will not blot my booke with these two that be not.

C A P. XVI.

A DEMAUNDER FOR GLYMMAR.

THESE Demaunders for glymmar be for the most parte women, for glymmar in their language is fyer: these goe with fayned licences and counterfayted writings, hauing the hands and seales of suche gentlemen as dwelleth neare to the place where they fayne themselves to haue bene burnt, and their goods consumed with fyre. They will most lamentably demaund your charity and will quickly shed salt teares, they be so tender harted. They will

never begge in that shyre where their losses (as they saye) was. Some of these goe with slates at their backes, which is a sheete to lye in a nights. The vpright men be very familiar with these kinde of wemen, and one of them helpes another.

A Demander of glymmar came to a good towne in Kente, to aske the charitie of the people, hauing a fayned licēce about her that declared her misfortune by fyer done in Somershet shyre, walkinge with a wallet on her shoulders wherein she put the deuotion of such as hadde no money to gyue her, that is to say, malte, wool, baken, bread and cheese: and alwayes as the same was full, so was it ready money to her when she emptyed the same, wher so euer shee traueled. This harlot was (as they terme it) snowt fayre, and hadde an vpright man or two alwayes attending on her wathe (which is on her person) and yet so circumspect, that they would neuer be séene in her company in any good towne, vnles it were in small villages, where typling houses where, eyther traueling together by the high wayes, but (the truth is by report) she would wéekely be worth vi. or seven shillings with her begging and bychery. This glymmerynge morte repaying to an ine in the said town where dwelt a widow of fifty yeare old, of good wealth, but shee had an vnthrifty sonne, whom she vsed as a chamberlaine to attend gestes whē thei repaired to her house, this amorous man beholding with ardant eyes thys glymmering glauncer, was presently piteously persed to the hart, and lewdly longed to be clothen vnder her liuery, and bestowing a fewe fonde wordes with her, understood straight that she would be easely perswaded to liking lechery, and as a man mased, mused how to attayne to his purpose, for he hadde no money. Yet considering with him selfe that wares would bee welcome where money wanteth, he went with a wanion to his mothers chamber and there séeking about for odde endes, at length found a little wishell of siluer that his mother did use customably to weare on, and had forgot the same for haste that morning, and offeres the same closely to this manerly marian, that if she would méete him on the backesyde of the town, and curteously kys him without constraint, she should be mystresse therof and it were much better: wel sayth she you are a wanton, and beholding the wishell, was farther in loue there-

with then ravisht with his person, and agréed to méete him presently and to accomplish his fond fancy: to be short and not tedious, a quarter of a myle from the towne he merely toke measure of her vnder a baudy bush (so she gave him that she had not, and he receyued that he could not) and taking leaue of ech other with a curteous kisse, she pleasantly passed forth on her iorney, and this untoward lecherous chamberlayne repayred homeward. But or these too tortylles tooke their leaue, the good wyfe had missed her whishle, and sent one of her maydens into her chamber for the same, and being long sought for, none could be found, her mystres hearing that, diligent search was made for the same, and that it was taken away, began to suspecte her vnblessed babe, and demaunded of her maydens whether none of them saw hir sonne in her chamber that morning, and one of them aunswered that she saw him not there but comming from thence, then had she ynough, for well she wist that he had the same, and sente for him, but he could not be found: then she caused her hosteler, in whō she had better affiance in for his trueth, and yet not one amongst twenty of them but haue well left their honesty (as I heare a greate sort say) to come vnto her, which attended to know her pleasure, goe seeke out saith she my vntoward sonne, and bid him come speake with me. I saw him goe out saith hee, halfe an houre sithens on the backsyde, I had thought you had sent him of your arrant. I sent him not quoth she, goe looke him out.

This hollow hosteler toke his staffe in his necke, and trudged out apace that way he saw him before go, and had some vnderstanding by one of the maydens that his mistres had her wishell stolen and suspected her sonne, and he had not gon far but that he espyed him comming homeward alone, and meting him, asked where he had bene? where haue I ben quoth he, and began to smyle, now by the masse thou hast ben at some baudy banquet: thou haste euen tolde troth quoth this chamberlayne: surely quoth this hosteler, thou haddest the same woman that begged at our house to day, for the harmes she had by fire, wher is she quoth he? she is almost a myle by this tyme quoth this chamberlayne, where is my mistres wishel quoth this hosteler, for I am wel assured that thou haddest it, and I feare me thou hast giuen it to

that harlot. Why, is it missed quoth this chamberlayn? yea quoth this hosteler, and shewed him al the whole circumstance what was both said and thought on him for the thing. Well I wil tel thée quoth this chamberlayne, I will be playne with thée, I had in dede and have giuen the same to this woman, and I pray thée make the best of it, and helpe now to excuse the matter, and yet surely and thou wouldest take so much payne for me as to ouertake her, for she goeth but softly and is not yit farre of and take the same from her, and I am ever thyne assured friend. Why then go with me quoth this hosteler, nay in fayth quoth this chamberlayne what is frear then gift, and I had preaty pastime for the same: hauest thou so quoth this hosteler? now by the masse and I will haue some to, or I will lye in the duste or I come again. Passing with haste to ouertake this paramoure within a myle frō ye place wher he departed he overtoke hir hauing an vpright mā in her company, a strong and a sturdy vacabond, somewhat amased was this hosteler to sée one familiarly in hir company, for he had wel hoped to haue had some delicate daliaunce as his fellow hadde, but séeing the matter so fal out, and being of good corage, and thinking to him selfe that one true man was better then two false knaues, and being on the high way, thought vpon helpe if nede had bene, by such as had passed to and fro: demaūded fiercely the whishell that she had euen now of his fellow: why husband quoth she, can you suffer this wretch to slaunder your wife? auaunt verlet quoth this vpright man and letes dryue withall his force at this hosteler, and after a dosen blowes he stricks his staffe out of his hand, and as this hosteler stept backe to have taken vp his staffe agayne, this glymmerynge morte flinges a great stone at him and strake him on the head, that downe he fales with the bloud about his eares, and while hée laye thus amased, the vpright man snatches awaye his pursse, where in he hadde money of his mistresses, as well as of his owne, and there let him lye and went away with spede, that they were neuer hearde of more. When this drye beaten hosteler was come to himselfe, hée fayntly wandereth home, and créepeth into his couche and restes his ydell head: hys mystres heard that he was come in, and layd him downe on his bed, repayred straight vnto him, and asked him what he

ayled, and what the cause was of his so sodden lyinge on his bed? what is the cause quoth this hostele, your whyshell, your wishell, speaking the same piteously thrée or foure tymes: why fole quoth his mystres, take no care for that, for I do not greatly way it, it was worth but thrée shillings four pence. I would it had ben burnt for four yeeres agon. I pray thee why so quoth his mystres? I thinke thou arte mad. Nay not yet quoth this hostler, but I have ben madly handled: why, what is the matter quoth his mistres, and was more desirous to know the case: and you will forgiue my fellow and mee. I will shewe you, or els I will neuer do it: she made him presently faithfull promise that she would, then saith hée send for your sonne home again, which is ashamed to look you in the face. I agree thereto sayth she, well then quoth this hosteler, your sonne hath geuen the same mort that begged here, for the burninge of her house, a wishell, and you haue giuen her fyue shillings in money, and I haue geuen her ten shillings of myne own: why so quoth shee, then he sadly shewed her of his mishap, with all the circumstance that you have hearde before, and how his purse was taken away, and xv. shillings in the same, whereof v. shillings was her money, and x shillings his owne money. Is this true quoth his mistres? I by my trouth quoth thys hosteler and nothing gréeues me so much, neyther my beatynge, neyther the losse of my money, as doth my euill and wretched lucke. Why, what is the matter quoth his mystres? your sonne sayth this hostler had some chere and pastime for that wishell for he lay with her, and I have ben well beaten and haue had my pursse taken from me, and you know your sonne is mery and pleasaunt and can kéepe no great counsell, and then shall I be mocked and laughed to skorn in all places, when they shall heare how I haue ben serued. Nowe out vpon you knaues both, quoth his mystres, and laughs out the matter, for she well sawe it would not otherwyse preuayle.

C A P. XVII.

A BAUDY BASKET.

THESE Baudye Basketes bée also women, and goe with baskets and capcases on their armes, where in they have laces, pinnes, nedles, whyte inkel, and round sylke gyrdels of all colours. These will bye conneskines, and steale linnen clothes of on hedges. And for their tryfles they will procure of mayden seruaunts, when their mistres or dame is out of the waye, eyther some good péece of béefe, bakē or chéese, that shall be worth xii. pēce for ii. pence of their toyes. And as they walke by the way, they often gaine some money with their instrument, by such as they sodaynly mete withall. The vpright men haue good acquayntance with these, and wil helpe and relieve them when they want. Thus they trade their liues in leude lothsome lechery. Amongst them all is but one honest woman, and she is of good yeares: her name is Jone Messenger. I haue had good prooffe of her, as I haue learned by the true report of divers.

There came to my gate the last sommer Anno Domini 1566, a very miserable man and much deformed as burnt in the face, blere eyde, and lame of one of his legges that he went with a crouche. I asked him wher he was borne and wher he dwelt last, and shewed him that thither he must repaire and be releued, and not to range about the countrey, and seeing some cause of charity, I caused him to haue meate and drink, and when he had dronk, I demaunded of him whether he was never spoyled of the vpright man or roge, yes that I haue quoth he, but yet these seuen yeres, for so long haue I gon abroad I had not so much taken from me nor so evil hādled as I was within these iiij. dayes, why, how so quoth I? in good faith sir quoth hée, I chaunced to mete with one of these budy baskets which had an vpright man in hir cōpany: and as I would haue passed quietly by her, man saith she vnto her mate, do you not sée this ilfauored windshaken knave: yes quoth the vpright man, what say you to him, this knaue oweth me ij.

shillings, for wares he had of mee halfe a yere a go, I think it well said this vpright man: syrra said he, pay your debts, said this poore man I owe hir none, nether did I ever bargayne with her for any thing, and as I am aduised I neuer saw her before in all my lyfe, mercy God, quoth she what a lying knaue is this, and he will not pay you husband beat him surely, and the vpright man gaue mée thre or four blowes on my back and shoulders and would have beat me worse and I had not giuen him all the money in my purse, and in good faith for very feare I was fayn to giue him xiiij. pens which was al the money that I had: why said this baudy basket hast thou no more, then thou owest ten pence styll, and be well assured that I will be payde the next tyme I méete with thée. And so they let me passe by them. I pray God saue and blesse me and all others in my case from such wicked persons quoth this poore mā, why whether went they, then quoth I, into east Kent, for I met with them on this syde of Rochester. I haue diuers tymes bene attempted but I neuer lost much before. I thanke God ther came still company by, afore this vnhappy time. Well quoth I, thanke God of all, and repayre home into thy natiue countrey.

CAP. XVIII.

A AUTEM MORTE.

THESE Autem Mortes be married wemen, as there be but a fewe: For Autem in their language is a Church, so shee is a wyfe married at the church, and they be as chaste as a cowe: I haue yt gooeth to bull euery moone, with what bull she careth not. These walke most tymes from their husbands company a moneth and more together, being associate with another as honest as her selfe. These will pilfer clothes of hedges, some of them go with children of ten or xij. yeares of age, if time and place serue for their purpose they wil send them into some house at the window to steale and robbe, which they call in their language, milling of the ken, and will goe with wallets on their shoulders and slates at their

backs, there is one of these Autem Mortes, she is now a widow of fifty yeres old, her name is Alice Milson, she goeth about with a couple of great boyes, the yōgest of them is fast upon xx. yeares of age, and these two do lie with her euery night, and she lyeth in the middes, she saith yt they be her children that beteled be the babes borne of such abhominable belly.

CAP. XIX.

¶ A WALKING MORTE.

THESE walking Mortes be not maryed, these for their vnhappye yeares doth go as a Autem Morte, and will saye their husbands died either at Newhauen, Ireland, or in some seruice of the prince. These make laces vpon staues and purses that they cary in their hands and white vallance for beddes. Many of these hath hadde, and haue children: when these get ought, either with begging, bychery, or brybery as money or apparell, they are quickly shaken out of all by the vpright men, and they are in a maruelous feare to cary any thing about them that is of any value. Wherefore, this pollicy they vse, they leaue their money now with one and then with another trusty housholder, eyther with the good man or good wyfe, some tyme in one shyre, and then in another as they trauell: this haue I knowne yt iiij. or v. shillings, yea x. shillings left in a place, and the same will they come for agayne within one quarter of a yere or some time not in halfe a yere, and all this is to little purpose, for all their peuishe pollicie: for when they bye them lynnyn or garmentes, it is taken away from them and worse giuen them, or none at all.

The last sommer Anno Domini 1566, beinge in familiar talke with a walkīg Morte, that came to my gate, I learned by hir what I could, and I thought I had gathered as much for my purpose as I desired, I began to rebuke her for hir leud life and beastly behauior, declaring to her what punishment was prepared and heaped vp for her in the world to come for her filthy liuing

and wretched conuersation, God helpe quod she how should I liue, none will take me into seruice, but I labour in haruest time honestly. I think but a whyle with honesty quoth I. Shall I tell you quoth she, the best of us may bee amended, but yit I thanke God, I did one good déed within this xii. monthes, wherein quoth I. Saith she I would not haue it spoken of again: if it be méete and necessary, quoth I, it shall lye under my féete: what mean you by that quoth she. I meane quoth I, to hide the same and never to discover it to any. Well quoth she and began to laugh as much as she could and sware by the masse that if I disclosed the same to any she would never tell me any thinge. The last sommer quoth she I was greate with childe and I traueled into east Kent by the sea coast, for I lusted maruelously after oyster and muskels and gathered many, and in the place where I found them, I opened them and eate them still, at the laste in séeking more, I reached after one and stept into a hole and fel in, into the wast and there did stick, and I had ben drowned if the tide had come, and espying a man a good way of, I cryed as much as I could for helpe. I was alone, he hard me and repaired as fast to me as hee might, and finding me there fast sticking, I required for God's sake his helpe, and whether it was with stryuing and forcing my self, or for ioy I had of his comming to me, I had a great colour in my face and loked red and well coloured. And to be playne with you, he lyked me so well (as he said) that I should there lye still, and I woulde not graūt him that he might lye with me. And by my trouth I wist not what to answere, I was in such a perplexitie, for I knew ye man well, he had a very honest womā to his wyfe and was of som welth; and on the other syde, if I were not holpe out, I should there haue perished, and I graunted him that I would obeye to his will, then he plucked me out. And because there was no conuenient place néer hand, I required him that I might go washe my selfe and make me somewhat clenly, and I would come to his house and lodge al night in his barne, whether he might repayre to me and accomlishe his desire, but let it not be quoth he before nine of the clocke at nyght, for then there wilbe small styryng. And I may repayre to the town quoth I to warme and drye my self, for this was about two of the clocke

in the after none, do so quoth he, for I must be busie to looke out my cattell here by before I can come home. So I went away from him and glad was I, and why so quoth I, because quoth she his wife my good dame is my very friend, and I am much beholding to hir. And she had donne me so muche good or this, that I were loth nowe to harme hir any way. Why so quoth I? what and it had ben any other man and not your good dames husband. The matter hadd bene the lesse quoth she. Tell me I pray thee quoth I, who was the father of the childe, she studied a whyle and sayd that it had a father, but what was hee quoth I? Nowe by my troth I know not quoth shee, you bring me out of my matter, so you do, well say on quoth I, then I departed straye to the towne and came to my dames house. And shewed her of my misfortune, also of her husbands vsage in all pointes and that I showed her the same for good will and bydd her take better héed to her husband and to her selfe, so shee gaue mee great thankes and made me good chéere, and bid me in anye case that I should be redy at the barne at that time and houre we had apointed, for I know well quoth this good wife my husband will not breake with thée. And one thing I warne thee that thou give me a watche worde a loude when he goeth about to haue his pleasure of thée, and that shalbee fye for shame fye, and I will be harde by you, wyth helpe. But I charge thée kepe this secret vntil all be finished, and hold sayth this good wyfe here is one of my peticotes I giue thee. I thanke you good dame quoth I, and I warrante you I will bee true and trusty vnto you. So my dame left me sittenge by a good fyer with meate and drinke, and with the oysters I brought wyth me, I hadde great chéere, she went straye and repayred vnto her gossipes dwelling thereby, and as I did after vnderstand, she made her mone to them, what a naughtye lewed lecherous husband shee hadde, and how that she could not have his companye for harlottes, and that she was in feare to take some filthy disease of him, he was so common a man, hauing little respect whom he hadde to do withall, and quoth she now here is one at my house a poore woman that goeth about the countrey that he would haue hadde to doe with all, wherefore good neighboures and louinge gossypes as you love mee and as you would haue hélpe at my hand

another tyme, deuyse some remedy to make my husband a good man, yt I may liue in some suerty without disease, and that hée may saue his soule that God so dearely bought. After shée had tolde her tale they cast their persinge eyes all vpon her, but one stout dame amongst the rest had these wordes: As your pacient bearing of troubles, your honest behaiour among vs your neighbours, your tender and pitifull harte to the poore of the parish, doth moue vs to lament your case, so the unsatiable carnaliti of your faithlesse husband doth instigate and styrre vs to deuyse and inuent some spedy redresse for your case and the amendment of his lyfe. Wherefore this is my counceild and you wil be aduertised by me, I say to you all, vnless it be this good wyfe, who is chefely touched in this matter I haue the next cause, for hée was in hande with me not longe agoe, and company had not ben present whiche was by a maruelous chaunce, he had (I thinke) forced me. For often he hadde ben tempting with me, and yet haue I sharply sayd him nay, therfore let vs assemble secretly into the place where hée hath appointed to méete this gylot that is at your house and lyrke pryuely in some corner tyll he begin to goe about his busines. And then me thought I hard you say euen now, that you had a watch word, at which word we will all stepp forth beinge fíue of vs besides you, for you shalbe none because it is your husband, but get you to bed at your accustomed houre, and we will carry eche of vs a good byrchen rod in our laps, and we will all be muffed for knowing, and sée that you goe home and acquaint that walking mort with the matter for we must haue her helpe to hold, for always foure must hold and two lay on. Alas saith this good wyfe, he is to strong for you al, I would be loth for my sake you should receiue harme at his hande: feare you not quoth these stout wemen, let her not giue the watch word untill his hosen be about his legges, and I trow we all wilbe with him to bring before he shall haue leasure to pluck them vp agayne: they with one voyce agréed to ye matter that ye way she had deuised was the best: so this good wife repaired home: but before she departed frō hir gosseps she shewed thē at what hour they shuld priuely cum in on ye backside and ther to tary their good hour, so by ye time she cam in, it was almost night and found the walk-

ing morte still sitting by the fier and declared to her al this new deuise aboue said, which promised faithfullye to fulfill to her small power as much as they had deuised, within a quarter of an houre after, in cōmeth ye good man who said yt hee was about his cattell, why what haue we here wife sitting by the fire, and if she haue eate and dronk send her into the barne to hir lodging for this night, for she troubleth the house: euen as you will husbände, saith his wife, you know she commeth once in two yeres into these quarters. Away sayth this good wyfe to your lodginge: yes good dame saith she as fast as I can, thus by loking one on the other eche knew others mynd, and so departed to her comely couche, the good man of the house shrodge him for ioy, thinkinge to him selfe I will make som pastime with you an one. And calling to his wyfe for his supper set him downe and was very pleasant and dranke to his wife and fell to his mammerings and mouched a pace, nothing understāding of the banquet that was a preparing for him after supper, and accordīg to the prouerbe (that swéet meat will have sowre sauce,) thus when he was well refreshed, his spirites being reuiued entered into familiar talk with his wyfe, of many matters how well he had spent that day to both their profytes, saying some of his cattell were lyke to haue bin drowned in the diches, dryuing others of his neighboures cattel out that were in his pasturs, and mending his fences that were broken down. Thus profitably he had consumed the daye, nothinge talking of his helping out of the walking morte out of the mire, neither of his request nor yit of his promise. Thus feding hir we frendly fantasies consumed two houres and more. Then fayning howe hee would see in what case his horse were in and how they were dressed, repaired couertly into the barne whereas his friendly foes lyked priuely vnlesse it were this manerly morte, that comly couched on a bottel of straw. What are you come quoth she, by ye masse I would not for a hundreth pound that my dame should know that you wer here either any els of your house. No I warrant thée saith this good man, they be all safe and fast inough at their work, and I will be at myne anon. And lay downe by her and straight would haue had to do with her, nay fye saith she, she, I like not this order, if ye lye with me you shal surely vn-

trusse you and put down your hosen for that way is most easiest and best, saiest thou so quoth he, now my troth agréed: and whē he had vntrussed himself and put down, he began to assault the vnsatiable fort, why quoth she that was without shame, sauinge for her promes, and are you not ashamed? neuer a whyt sayth he, lye downe quickly, now fye for shame, fye sayth shée aloudē (which was the watch word) at the which word these fyue furious sturdy muffed gossipēs flinges out and takes sure holde of this betrayed person, some plucking his hosen down lower, and bindinge the same fast about his fēete, then binding his handes and knittinge a hande charcher about his eyes, that hēe should not sēe, and when they had made him sure and fast, then they laid him on vntill they were windles: be good saith this morte unto my master for the passion of God, and layd on as fast as the rest, and still ceased not to crye upon them too be mercyfull unto him, and yet layd on a pace, and when they hadde well beaten him that the bloude braste plentifully out in most places they let him lye still bounde, with this exhortation, that he shoulde from that time foorth knowe his wyfe from other mens, and that this punishment was but a flebyting in respect of that which should follow, if he amended not his manners. Thus leauing him blustering, blowing and foming for payne and malencolye, that hēe neyther might or could be reuenged of them: they vanished awaye and had this morte with them, and safely conuayd her out of the towne: soone after commeth into the barne one of the good mans boyes to fet some haye for his horsé. And finding his maister lying fast boūd and gréeuously beaten with rodde, was sodainly abashed and wold haue runne out agayne to have called for helpe, but his maister byd him come vnto him and vnbinde him, and make no woordes quoth he of this. I wil be reuenged well ynough, yet notwithstandinge after better aduyse, the matter being vn honest, he thought it méeter to let the same passe, and not as the prouerbe sayth (to awake the sléepeing dogge.) And by my troth quoth this walking morte, I com now from that place and was neuer there sythens this parte was playd, which is somewhat more than a yeare. And I heare a verye good report of him now, that he loueth his wyfe well and vseth hymselfe

uery honestly: and was not this a good acte, now how say you? It was pretely handeled quoth I, and is here all? yea quoth shee, here is the end.

C A P. XX.

A DOXE.

THESE Doxes be broken and spoyled of their maydenhead by the vpright men, and then they haue their name of doxes and not afore. And afterward she is common and indifferent for any that will vse her, as homo is a commō name to all men. Such as be fayre and somewhat handsome, kepe company with the walking mortes, and are redy always for the vpright men, and are chiefly maynteined by them, for others shalbe spoiled for their sakes, the other inferior sort will resorte to noble mens places, and gentlemen houses standing at the gate, eyther lurking at the backsyde about backe houses, eyther in hedge rowes or some other thicket, expectynge their praye, which is for the vncomly company of some courteous gest of whom they be refreshed with meate and some money, where eschaunge is made ware for ware: this bread and meate they vse to carye in their great hosen, so that these beastly brybinge bréeches, serue many tymes for baudy purposes. I chaunced not long sithens familiarly to common with a Doxe that came to my gate, and surely a pleasaunt harlot, and not so pleasant as witty, and not so witty as voyde of all grace and goodnes. I found by her talk that she had passed her tyme lewdly eightene yeares in walking about. I thought this a necessary instrument to attayne some knowledge by, and before I woulde grope hir mind, I made her both to eat and drynk well, that done I made her faithfull promise to gyve her some money if she woulde open and discouer to me such questions as I would demaund of hir and neuer to bewraye hir, neyther to disclose her name. And you should sayth shee I were vndone: feare not that quoth I, but I pray thee quoth I, say nothing but truth. I will not sayth shee, then firste tell me quoth I, how many vpright men

and roges dost thou know or hast thou knowne and bene conuersant with, and what their names be? she paused a while and sayd, why do you aske me, or wherefore? For nothing els as I sayd, but that I would knowe them whē they come to my gate. Now by my troth (quoth she) then are yee neuer the nearer, for all myne acquaintance for the most part are dead. Dead quoth I? how dyed they, for want of cherishing or of paynfull diseases? Then she sighed and sayde they were hanged. What all quoth I, and so many walke abroad as I dayly see? By my trouth quoth she I know not paste six or seuen by their names, and named the same to mee. When were they hanged quoth I? Some seuen yeares agone, some thrée yeares, and some with in this fortnight, and declared the place where they weare executed, which I knewe well to be true, by report of others. Why (quoth I) dyd not this sorrowfull and fearfull sight much gréeue thee, and for thy tyme long and euill spent. I was sory quoth shee, by the masse, for some of them were good louing men, for I lackt not when they had it, and they wanted not when I had it, and diuers of them I neuer did forsake, vntill the gallowes departed us. O mercyfull God quoth I, and began to blesse me. Why blesse ye quoth she? Alas good gentleman, euery one must haue a liuing. Other matters I talked of, but this now may suffice to shewe the reader as it were in a glasse the bolde beastely lyfe of these doxes. For suche as hath gonne any tyme abroad, will neuer forsake their trade, to dye therefore. I haue hadde good profe thereof. There is one notorious harlot of this affinitie called Besse Bottomely, she hath but one hande, and she hath murdered two children at the least.

C A P. XXI.

A DELL.

A DELL is a yonge wench, able for generation, and not yet known or broken by the vpright man. These goe abroad yonge, eyther by the death of their parentes, and no body to looke vnto them or

else by some sharpe mystres that they serue do runne awaye out of seruice, eyther she is naturally borne one, and then she is a wyld Dell: these are broken very yonge, when they haue ben lyen withall by the vpright man, then they bee Doxes, and no Dell. These wylde Dels being traded vp with their monstrous mothers, muste of necessitie be as euil or worse then their parentes, for neyther we gather grapes from greene bryars, neyther fygges from thistels. But such buds, such blossems, such euil sée de sowen, wel worsse being growen.

CAP. XXII.

A KYNCHING MORTE.

A KYNCHING Morte is a little gyrl, the mortes their mothers carries them at their backes in their slates, whiche is their shetes, and bringes them vp sauagely, till they growe to be rype, and soone rype, soone rotten.

CAP. XXIII.

A KYNCHEN CO.

A KYNCHEN Co, is a young boye traded up to such péevish purposes, as you haue hard of other young ympes before, that when he groweth vnto yeares, he is better to hang then to draw foorth.

C A P. XXIV.

THEIR VSAGE IN THE NIGHT.

Now, I think it not vnecessary to make the reader vnderstand how and in what maner they lodge a nights in barnes or back-houses, and of their vsage there, for asmuch as I haue acquaynted them with their order and practises a day tymes. The arch and chief walkers that hath walked a long tyme, whose experience is great, because of their continuing practise, I meane all mortes and doxes, for their hansomnes and diligence, for making of their couches. The men neuer trouble themselues with that thing, but takes the same to be the duty of the wyfe. And she shuffels vp a quantitie of strawe or hay, into some prety corner of the barne where she may conueniently lie, and well shaketh the same, making the heade somewhat hye, and dryues the same vpon the sydes and set lyke a bed: then she layeth her wallet or other little pack of ragges or scryppe vnder hir head in the strawe, to beare up the same, and layeth her peticote or cloke vpon and ouer the strawe, so made lyke a bedde and that serueth for the blanket: then she layeth her slate which is her shéete vpon that, and shée have no shéete, as fewe of them go without, then she spreddeth some large cloutes or rags ouer the same, and maketh hir ready and layeth hir drouselly downe. Many will plucke of their smockes and lay the same vpon them in stéede of their vpper shéete, and all her other pelte and trashe vpon her also, and many lyeth in their smockes. And if the rest of her clothes in cold weather bee not sufficient to kéepe her warme, then she taketh strawe or hay to performe the matter. The other sorte that haue no slates, but tounge down and couche a hogshhead in their clothes, these be still lousy and shall neuer be without vermin, vnlesse they put of their clothes, and lye as is aboue said. If the vpright man come in where they lye, hee hath his choyse, and créepeth in close by his doxe, the roge hath his léauings. If the mortes or doxes lye or be lodged in some farmers barne, and the dore be eyther locked or made fast to

them, then will not the vpright man presse to come in, vnless it be in barnes and out houses standing alone, or some distance from houses, which be commonly knowne to them: as saint Quintens, thrée Cranes in the vintrey, Sainct Tybbes, and Knapsbery. These foure be within one myle compasse neare vnto London. Then haue you foure more in Middlesex, draw the pudding out of the fyre, in Harrow on the hill parish, the Crosse keyes in Crayford parish, saint Julians in Thystell worth parish, the house of pity in North hall parishe. These are their chief houses neare about London, where commonly they resort vnto for lodging, and may repayre thither fréely at all tymes. Sometime shall come in some roge, some pycking knaue, a nimble prygge, he walketh in softly a nightes, when they be at their reste and plucketh of as many garmentes as be ought worth, that hee maye come by, and worth money, and may easely cary the same, and runneth away with the same with great selerity, and maketh port sale at some conuenient place of theirs, that some be soone ready in the morning, for wante of their casters and togemans. Where in stede of blessing is cursinge, in place of praying, pestilent pratinge with odious othes and terrible threatenings. The vpright men haue giuen all these nycke names, to the places aboue sayd. Yet have we two notable places in Kent, not farre from London, the one is betwene Detforde and Rothered, called the Kinges barne, standinge alone, that they haunt commonly: the other is Ketbroke standinge by Blacke heath halfe a myle from any house, there will they boldly draw the latch of the doore and go in, when the good man with his family be at supper and sit downe without leaue and eate and drink with them, and either lye in the hall by the fyre al night or in ye barn if there be no roome in the house for them. If the doore be eyther bolted or lockt, if it be not opened unto them when they will, they will breake the same open to his farther cost. And in this barne sometime do lye xl. vpright men with their doxes togither at one time. And this muste the poore farmer suffer, or els they threaten him too burne him, and all that he hath.

THE
N A M E S
OF THE
Upright Men, Roges, and Pallpards.

HERE followeth the unruly rablement of rascals, and the moste notorious and wickedst walkers that are liuing now at this presente with their true names as they be called and known by. And although I set and place here but three orders, yet good reader vnderstande, that all the others aboue named are deriued and come out from the Vpright men and Roges. Concerning the number of Mortes and Doxes, it is superfluous to write of them. I could well haue done it, but the number of them is great, and would aske a large volume.

VPRIGHT MEN.

Antony Heymer.	Edward Browne.	John Jones.
Antony Jackson.	Follentine Hylles.	John Tedar.
Burfet.	Fardinando Angell.	John Braye.
Bryan Medcalfe.	Griffyn.	John Cutter.
Core the Cuckolde.	Fraunces Dawghton.	John Bell.
Christouer Cooke.	Great John Graye.	John Stephens.
Dowsabell skylfull in fence.	George marynar.	John Graye.
Dauid Coke.	George Hutchinson.	John Whyte.
Dycke Glouer.	Hary Hylles, alias	John Rewe.
Dicke Abristowe.	Harry Godepar.	John Morres.
Dauid Edwards.	Harry Agglyntyne.	John a Ferdinando.
Dauid Holland.	Harry Smith, hee dry-	John Newman.
Dauid Jones.	ueleth whē he speak-	John Win, alias
Edmund Dun a sing-	eth.	Williams.
ing man.	Harry Jonson.	John a Pycones.
Edward skiner, alias	James Barnard.	John Thomas.
Ned Skinner.	John Myllar.	John Arther.
	John Walchman.	John Palmer alias Tod

John Geffrey.	John Bascafelde.	Thomas Cutter.
John Goddard.	Lennard iust.	Thomas Garet.
John Gray the great.	Long gréene.	Thomas Newton.
John Gray the little.	Laurence Ladd.	Thomas Web.
John Williams the Longer.	Laurence Marshall.	Thomas Graye his toes be gonne
John Harwod a maker of wels, hee will take halfe his bargayne in hande, and when he hath wrought ii. or iii. daies, he runneth away with his earnest.	Nicolas wilson.	Tom Bodell.
	Ned Barington.	Thomas Wast.
	Ned wetherdon.	Thomas Dawsō alias
	Ned Holmes.	Thomas Jacklin.
	Phillip Gréene.	Thomas Basset.
	Robart Grauer.	Thomas Marchant
	Robart Gerse.	Thomas Web.
John Peter.	Robart Kynge.	Thomas Awefeld.
John Porter.	Robart Egerton.	Thomas Gibbins.
John Appowes.	Robart Bell, brother to John Bell.	Thomas Lacon.
John Arter.	Robart Maple.	Thomas Bate.
John Bates.	Robart Langton.	Thomas Allen.
John Comes.	Robyn Bell.	well arayd Richard.
John Chiles, alias great Chyles.	Robyn Toppe.	William chamborn.
John Leuet he maketh tappes and fausets.	Robart Browswerd.	William Panell.
John Louedall a may- ster of fence.	he weareth his heare long.	William morgan.
John Louedale.	Robart Curtes.	William Belson.
John Mekes.	Richard Brimmish.	William Ebes
John Appowell.	Richard iustice.	William Garret.
John Chappell.	Richard Barton.	William Robinson.
John Gryffen.	Richard Constance.	William Umberuil.
John Mason.	Richard Thomas.	William Dauids.
John Humfrey with the lame hand.	Richard Cadman.	Will Pen.
John Stradling with the shaking head.	Richard scate good.	William Jones.
John Franke.	Richard Aprice.	Will Powell.
John Baker.	Richard Walker.	William Clarke.
	Richard Coper.	Water Wirall.
	Steuens Neuett.	William Browne.
	Thomas Bulloke.	William Grace.
		William Pickering.

ROGES.

Arch Dowglas a scot.	John Crewe with one	Raffe Ketley.
Black Dycke.	arme.	Robert Harrison.
Dycke Durram.	John Brown a great	Symond Kyng.
Dauid Dew neuet a	stammerar.	Thomas Paske.
counterfet Crank.	Little Dycke.	Thomas Béere
Edward Ellys.	Little robyn.	Irish man.
Edward Anseley.	Lambart rose.	Thomas Smith with
George Belberby.	Nicholas Adames.	the skalde skin.
Godman.	Nicholas Crispin.	Thomas Shawneam.
Gerard Gybynes, a	Nicholas Blunt, alias	William Carew.
counterfet cranke.	Nicholas Genins, a	William wastfield.
Harry walles with ye	counterfet Crank.	Wylson.
little mouth.	Nicholas Lynche.	William Gynkes with
Humfrey ward.	Richard Brewton.	a whyte beard, a
Harry Mason.	Richard Horwod, wel	lusty and strong
John Warren.	née lxxx. yeare old,	man, he runneth
John Donwithoneleg	he will bite a vi.	about ye countrey
John Elson.	peny nayle asunder	to seeke worke with
John Raynoles Irish	with his teth and a	a big boy his sonne,
man.	baudy dronkard.	caryinge his toles as
John Harrys.	Richard Crane he ca-	a dawber or plays-
James Monkaster a	rieth a Kynchen Co	terer, but little worke
counterfet Crank.	at his backe.	serveth him.
John Dewe.	Richard Jones.	

PALLYARDS.

Bashford.	ing him, which fain-	John Dauids.
Dick Sehan Irish.	eth the Cranke.	John Harison.
Dauid Powell.	Edward Lewes, a	John Carew.
Dauid Jones a coun-	Dummerar.	James Lane, with one
terfet Cranke.	Hugh Jones.	eye Irish.
Edward Heyward	John Persk a coun-	John Fisher.
hath his mort follow-	terfet cranke.	John Dewe.

John Gilford Irish.	Prestone.	Thomas Edwards.
with a counterfet	Robart Lacle.	Thomas Dauids.
licence.	Robart Canloke.	William Thomas.
Laurence with the	Richard Hilton ca-	William Coper with
great legge.	riethij.kinchēmortes	the harelyp.
Nicholas Newton ca-	about him.	Wil Pettet beareth
rieth a fayned li-	Richard Thomas.	a kīchē mort at his
cence.	Sothgarde.	back.
Nicholas Decase.	Swanders.	wylliam Bowmer.

There is aboue an hundreth of Irish men and women that wander about to begge for their living, that hath come ouer within these two yeares. They saye they haue ben burned and spoyled by the Earle of Desmond and report well of the Earle of Urmond.

¶ All these aboue written for the most part walke aboute Essex, Middlesex, Sussex, Surrey and Kent. Then let the reader iudge what nūbers walks in other Shieres, I feare me to great a nūber, if they be well vnderstand.

HERE FOLLOWETH THEIR PELTING SPEECHE.

HERE I set before thee good reader, the leud lousey language of these leutering luskes, and laysy lorels, wherewith they bye and sell the common people as they passe through the country: whiche language they terme Peddelers Frenche, an vnknownen tounge onely, but to these bold beastly bawdy beggers, and vayne vacabonds, being halfe myngled with Englishe, when it is familiarly talked, and fyrste placing things by their proper names, as an introduction to this peeuish speache.

Nab,	Gan,	Fambles,
a head.	a mouth.	handes.
Nabchet,	A pratling chete,	A fambling chete,
a hat or cap.	a tounge.	a ring on thy hand.
Glasyers,	Crashing chetes,	Quaromes,
eyes.	teeth.	a body.
A smelling chete,	Hearing chetes,	Prat,
a nose.	cares.	a buttocke.

Stampes, legges.	A gage, a quart pot.	A gyb, a writing.
A caster, a cloke.	Askew, a cuppe.	A Jarke, a scale.
A togman, a coate.	Yannam, bread.	A ken, a house.
A commission, a shirt.	Cassan, cheese.	A stauling ken, a house that will re- ceyue stollen wares.
Drawers, hosen.	Param, mylke.	A bowsing ken, a ale house.
Stampers, shoes.	Lap, butter mylke or whey.	A lypken, a house to lye in.
A mofling chete, a napkin	Pek, meate.	Alybbeg, a bedde.
A belly chete, an apren.	Poppelars, porrage.	Glymmar, fyer.
Dudes, clothes.	Ruffpeck, baken.	Rome bouse, wyne.
A lag of dudes, a bucke of clothes.	A grunting chete or a patricos kinchen,	Lag, water.
A slate a sheete or shetes.	a pygge.	A skypper, a barne.
Lyb bege, a bed.	A cackling chete, a coke or capon.	Strommell, strawe.
Boung, a purse.	A margeri prater, a hen.	A gentry cofes kē, a noble or gentle mans house.
Lowre, money.	A roger or tyb of the butery,	A gyger, a dore.
Mynt, golde.	a gose.	Bufe, a dogge.
A borde, a shilling.	A quaking chete or a red shanke,	The lightmans, the day.
Halfe a borde, sixe pence.	a drake or a ducke.	The darkemans, the night.
Flagg, a groat.	Grannam, corne.	Rome vyle, London.
A wyn, a penny.	A lowhing chete, a cove.	Dewse a vyle, the countrey.
A make, a halfepeny.	A bleting chete, a calfe or sheepe.	Rome mort, the Queene.
Bowse, drinke.	A prauncer, a horse.	A gentry cofe, a noble or gentle man.
Bene, good.	Autem, a church.	A gentry mort, a noble or gentle wo- man.
Benship, very good.	Salomon, a altar or masse.	
Quier, nought.	Patrico, a priest.	
	Nosegent, a nunne.	

The quier cuffyn, the iusticer of peace.	To nyp a boung, to cut a purse.	To maunde, to aske or require.
The harmā beck, the constable.	To skower the cramp- ringes,	To stall, to make or ordain.
The harmans, the stockes.	to weare boltes or fet- ters.	To cante, to speake.
Quyerkyn, a pryson house	To heue a bough, to robbe or rifle a boweth.	To mill a ken, to robbe a house.
Quyer cramp-ringes, boltes or fetters.	To cly the gerke, to be whipped.	To prygge, to ryde.
Tryning, hanging.	To cut benle, to speake gentle.	To dup y ^e gyger, to open the dore.
Chattes, the gallowes.	To cut bene whydds, to speake or giue good words.	To couch a hogshead, to ly downe and slepe.
The hygh pad, the high way.	To cutte quyer whyddes,	To nygle, to haue to do with a woman carnally.
The ruffmans, the wods or bushes.	to geue euil words or euil language.	Stow you, hold your peace.
A smelling chete, a garden or orchard.	To cutte, to saye.	Bynge a waste, go you hence.
Crassing chetes, appels, peares, or any other fruit.	To towre, to see.	To the ruffian, to the Deuill.
To fylche, to robbe.	To bouse, to drinke.	The ruffian cly thée, the deuil take thee.

¶ The vpright Cofe cateth to the Roge.
The vpright man speaketh to the Roge.

VPRIGHT MAN.

Bene Lightmans to thy quarromes in what lipken hast thou lipped
in this darkemans, whether in a lybbege or in the strummell.

Good morrowe to thy bodye, in what house hast thou lyne in all night, whe-
ther in a bedde or in the strawe?

ROGE.

I couched a hogshead in a Skypper this darkemans.
I layd me downe to sléepe in a barne this night.

VPRIGHT MAN.

I towre the strummel trine vpon the nabchet and togman.
I séc the straw hange vpon thy cap and coate.

ROGE.

I say by the Salomon I will lage it of with a gage of bene bouse
then cut to my nose watch.

I sweare by the masse I will washe it off wyth a quarte of good drinke, then
say to me what thou wilt.

VPRIGHT MAN.

Why hast thou any lowre in thy bongue to bouse.

Why, hast thou any money in thy pursse to drinke?

ROGE.

But a flagge, a wyn and a make.

But a groate, a penny and a half penny.

VPRIGHT MAN.

Why, where is the ken that hath the bene bouse.

Where is the house that hath the good drinke.

ROGE.

The morte here by at the signe of the prauncer.

The good wyfe here by at the signe of the horse.

VPRIGHT MAN.

Butte it is quyer bowse, I bowsd a flagge the last darkemans.

I say it is small and naughty drinke, I dranke a groat there the last night.

ROGE.

But bowse there a bord, and thou shalt haue benship.

But drinke there a shilling, and thou shalt haue very good.

Towre ye, yander is the ken, dup the gyger and maunde that
is beneship.

See you, yonder is the house, open the doore, and aske for the best.

VPRIGHT MAN.

This bowse is as good as Rome bowse.

This drinke is as good as wyne.

Now I tower that bene bowse makes nase nabes.

Now I see that good drinke makes a drunken head.

Maund of this morte what bene pecke is in her ken.

Aske of this wyfe what good meate shée hath in her house.

ROGE.

Shee hath a cacling chete, a gruntinge chete ruff pecke, cassan,
and poppelars of yarum.

Shee hath a hen, a pygge, baken, cheese, and mylke porrage.

VPRIGHT MAN.

That is banship to our watch.

That is very good for vs.

Now we haue well bousd, let vs strike some chete.

Now we haue well dronke, let vs steale some thing.

Yonder dwelleth a quier cussen, it were beneship to myll him.

Yonder dwelleth a hoggish and chorlishe man, it were very well done to
rob him.

ROGE.

Now byng we a wast to the high pad, the ruffmans is by.

Pray let us goe hence to the high way, the wood is at hand.

VPRIGHT MAN.

So maye we happen on the harmans and clye the Jarke or to
the quierken and skower quiare crompt-rings and so to trining on
the chates.

So we may chaunce to syt in the stockes, eyther be whipped, eyther had to
prison house, and their be shacked with boltes and fetters, and then to hange on
the gallowes.

ROGE.

Gerry gan the Ruffian clye thee.

A torde in thy mouth, the deuill take thee.

THE VPRIGHT MAN.

What stowe you bene cofe and cut benar whyddes and byng
we to Rome vyle to nyp a bounge, so shall we haue lower for the
bowsing ken, and when we byng back to the deuseuyle, we will
fylche some duddes of the Ruffmans or myll the ken for a lage
of duddes.

What holde your peace good fellowe and speake better wordes, and go we to
London to cut a purse, then shal wee haue money for the ale house, and when we

come backe agayne into the countrey, we will steale some lynnens clothes of some hedge, or robbe some house for a bucke of clothes.

¶ By this little ye may holy and fully understande their vntoward talk and pelting spéech mingled without measure, and as they have begon of late to deuyse some new termes for certayn things: so will they in time alter this and devise as euill or worse. This language now being knowne and spreade abroad, yet one thing more I wil ad vnto, not meaning to English the same, because I learned that of a shameles doxe, but for the phrase of speeche I set it forth only.

There was a proud patrico and a nosegent, he toke his Jockam in his famble, and a wapping he went, he dockt the Dell he prygge to praunce, he byngd a wast into the darkemans, he fylche the Cofe without any fylch man.

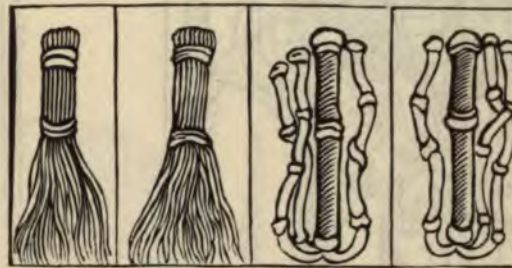




A Stockes to staye sure and safely detayne,
Lasy lewd Leuterers that lawes do offend:
Impudent persons, thus punished with payne,
Hardly for all this, do mean to amende.



Fetters or shackels serve to make fast
 Male malefactors, that on mischief do muse,
 Untill the learned lawes do quite or do cast
 Such subtile searchers as all euill do vse.



A whyp is a whysker that will wrest out blood,
 Of backe and of body, beaten right well:
 Of all the other it doth the most good.
 Experience teacheth, and they can well tell.

O dolefull day, now death draweth nere,
 His bitter styng doth pearce me to the harte;
 I take my leaue of all that be here,
 Now piteously playing this tragicall parte.
 Nether strypes nor teachings in time could conuert,
 Wherefore an ensample let me to you be,
 And all that be present, now pray you for me.





¶ Thus I conclude my bold Beggars booke,
 That all estates most playnely may see,
 As in a glasse well polished to looke,
 Their double demeaner in eche degré.
 Their lives, their language, their names as they be,
 That with this warning their minds may be warned
 To amende their misdéedes and so liue vnharmed.

FINIS.

Imprinted at London by Henry Middleton, dwelling
 in Fletestreat at the signe of the Faucon:
 and are to be sold at his shop in
 St. Dunstones Church-
 yard, An. 1573.

